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# HISTORY OF FRANCE,

IN QUESTION AND ANSWER,

FROM PHARAMOND TO NAPOLEON :

ARRANGED

IN CENTURIES, LINES, AND HOUSES,

WITH

CONSORTS AND CHILDREN,

CONTEMPORARIES IN ENGLAND, GERMANY, SPAIN, AND THE  
PAPACY;

Historical Events,

DISCOVERIES AND IMPROVEMENTS,

WITH

THE CHARACTER OF EACH SOVEREIGN.

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BY SARAH RANSON.

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THIS LITTLE WORK IS RESPECTFULLY INSCRIBED,  
BY  
HER LADYSHIP'S DEVOTED SERVANT,  
THE AUTHOR.



## P R E F A C E.

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SINCE the excellent works of Mrs. Markam and Mrs. Jameson have caused the History of France to form part in the general reading of young persons, it is hoped that the following pages may be found profitable to be committed to memory. With the exception of Pinnock's short Catechism, there is not any similar Class Book on the French History. As works of reference, the pages of Anquetil, Mezerai, Gifford, and Philippe de Commines have been consulted; and in the arrangement of the whole, it has been the desire of the Author, as much as possible, to interest, as well as to benefit the pupil.

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## INTRODUCTORY QUESTIONS.

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How many lines of Kings have swayed the sceptre of France ?

Three ; viz.

The Merovingian, commencing A.D. 420, by Pharamond.\*

The Carolingian, commencing A.D. 751, by Pepin le Bref.

The Capetian, commencing A.D. 987, by Hugh Capet.

How many sovereigns have there been of the Merovingian line ?

Twenty-two, from Pharamond to Childeric III. They governed during a space of three hundred and thirty-one years.

How many Princes of the second, or Carolingian race ?

Thirteen, from Pepin le Bref to Louis V., or Le Faineant. They held the crown during a space of two hundred and thirty-six years.

And how many of the Capetian dynasty ?

Thirty-four sovereigns, from Hugh Capet to Charles X., excepting only an interval of eleven years, in which Napoleon governed France.

\* Opinions are so various respecting the dates attached to the Merovingian Kings, that Antequil alone has been consulted on this point.

Has not this last race been again subdivided ?

Yes, into five branches, viz :

1. The Capetians, or direct descendants of Hugh Capet.
2. The first House of Valois.
3. The House of Orleans.
4. The second House of Valois.
5. The House of Bourbon.

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#### ERRATA.

- Page 92, line 29, for Charles V. read Charles IV.  
— 146, line 31, for France, read Francis.  
— 147, line 7, for Cressi, read Crepi.  
— 149, line 17, for Eleanor, read Elizabeth.  
— 202, 213, 214, for Maria Antoinette, read Marie Antoinette.

A CHRONOLOGICAL TABLE

OF THE

SOVEREIGNS OF FRANCE,

FROM PHARAMOND TO LOUIS XVIII.

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ALSO,

A TABLE OF THE KINGS OF FRANCE,

WITH THEIR

CONSORTS AND CHILDREN,

FROM PEPIN TO CHARLES X.

I.—*A Chronological Table of the Sovereigns of France.*

MEROVINGIAN RACE.	SOVEREIGNS' NAMES.	Began to reign A. D.	Reigned years.	Age.	Where Buried.	Century.
	PHARAMOND .....	420	7			V.
	CLODION le Chevelu .....	427	21			
	MEROVEE .....	448	8			
	CHILDERIC I. ....	456	26		Tournai .....	
	5 CLOVIS I. ....	482	30	45	Paris, Ch. St. Genievieve ..	
	CHILDEBERT I. ....	512	46			VI.
	CLOTAIRE I. ....	558	4			
	CARIBERT .....	562	4			
	CHILPERIC I. ....	566	18			
	5 CLOTAIRE II. le Grand .....	584	44	45		
	DAGOBERT I. ....	628	10			VII.
	CLOVIS II. ....	638	17			
	CLOTAIRE III. ....	655	15			
	CHILDERIC II. ....	670	9			
	THIERRY I. ....	679	12			
	CLOVIS III. ....	691	4			
	7 CHILDEBERT II. le Juste .....	695	16			

CARLOVINGIAN RACE.	MEROVIN- GIAN RACE.					VIII.		IX.		X.	
	DAGOBERT II. ....	711	5	—							
	CLOTAIRE IV. ....	716	1								
	CHILDERIC III. ....	717	4								
	THIERRY II. de Challes. ....	721	17								
	An Interregnum of Five Years.	—	—								
	CHILDERIC III. le Simple .....	742	9								
	PEPIN le Bref .....	751	17	54							
	7 CHARLEMAGNE .....	768	46	72							
	LOUIS I. le Debonnaire .....	814	26	72							
	CHARLES II. le Chauve .....	840	37	53							
	LOUIS II. le Begue .....	877	2	31							
	LOUIS III. and CARLOMAN .....	879	5								
	CHARLES le Gros, (Emperor of Germany) ..	884	4								
	EUDES (Count of Paris) .....	888	10								
	7 CHARLES III. le Simple .....	893	31	47							
	CHARLES RODOLPH (Duke of Burgundy)	924	12								
	LOUIS IV. d'Outre Mer .....	936	18								
	LOTHAIRE .....	954	32	45							
	LOUIS V. le Faincant .....	986	1								





CAPETIAN RACE.									
2d Branch, First House of Valois.	CHARLES VII. le Victorieux .....	1422	39	59	St. Denis .....	} XV.			
	LOUIS XI. le Roi très Chretien .....	1461	22	61	Notre Dame de Clery .....				
	CHARLES VIII. l'Affable .....	1483	15	28	St. Denis .....				
3rd Branch, House of Orleans.	4 LOUIS XII. le Père du Peuple .....	1498	16	55	St. Denis .....	} XVI.			
4th Branch, Second House of Valois.	FRANCIS I. le Père des Lettres.....	1515	32	53	St. Denis .....				
	HENRY II. ....	1547	12	40	St. Denis .....				
	FRANCIS II. ....	1559	1	17	St. Denis .....				
	CHARLES IX. ....	1560	13	24	St. Denis .....				
	HENRY III. ....	1574	14	39	St. Denis .....				
5th Branch, House of Bourbon.	6 HENRY IV. le Grand .....	1589	21	57		} XVII.			
	LOUIS XIII. le Juste .....	1610	33	42	St. Denis .....				
	2 LOUIS XIV. le Grand .....	1643	72	77	St. Denis .....	} XVIII.			
	LOUIS XV. le Bien Aimé .....	1715	59	64	St. Denis .....				
	2 LOUIS XVI. le Desiré .....	1774	18	39					
	REPUBLIC .....1792	—	—	—		} XIX.			
	— NAPOLEON Emperor .....	1804	11	52	St. Helena.....				
	LOUIS XVIII. ....	1815	9		St. Denis .....				

## II.—A Table of the Kings of France, with their Consorts and Children.

Century.	KINGS.	CONSORTS.	SONS.	DAUGHTERS.	Child. died young
VIII.	PEPIN .....	BERTHA, d. of a Count of Leon.....	CHARLEMAGNE .....	Da. m. to the Count of Angers	
	CHARLEMAGNE .....	HERMENGARDE, d. of Didier K. of Lombardy (div.)	CARLOMAN .....	Two daughters, became nuns.	
		HILDEGARDE, Princess of Suabia .....	CHARLES, PEPIN, } Died before their LOUIS..... } Father ..	ROTRUDE and BERTHA ..	3
		FASTRADE .....		THEODRADE & HILTRUDE	
	LOUIS .....	LUITGARDE .....	LOTHAIRE, Em. of the West and K. of Italy .....	GISLE, m. to Count Evtard	
IX.		ERMENGARDE .....	PEPIN, King of Aquitaine	ADELAIDE, m. to Begon, Count of Paris.....	
			LOUIS, K. of Bavaria, succeeded the German .....	HILDEGARDE, m. to Count Thieri .....	
	JUDITH of Bavaria .....		CHARLES .....		
	CHARLES II. ....	ERMANTRUDE .....	LOUIS .....	JUDITH, m. to Ethelwolf, K. of England. 2d. to Baldwin, E. of Flanders..	2
		RICHILDE, sister to Boson, King of Arles .....	Three sons, who died before their Father.....		2
	LOUIS II. ....	ANSGARDE.....	LOUIS and CARLOMAN		
		ADELAIDE.....	CHARLES le Simple ....		
	LOUIS III. & CARLOMAN	Unmarried.			
	CHARLES le Gros .....				

<p>— Eudes .....  CHARLES III. le Simple</p>	<p>GISELLE.....  EDGYVA, d. of Edward the  Elder, K. of England....</p>	<p>LOUIS .....  no issue.</p>	<p>GISELLE, m. Rolla, D. of  Normandy .....</p>
<p>RODOLPH .....  LOUIS IV. ....</p>	<p>GERBERGA, sister to Emp.  Otho, and widow of Gil-  bert, D. of Lorraine ....</p>	<p>LOTHAIRE.....  CHARLES, D. of Lorraine</p>	<p>METILDA, m. Conrad, K. of  Burgundy .....</p>
<p>LOTHAIRE.....  LOUIS V. ....</p>	<p>EMMA, d. of Lothaire, K. of  Italy.....  BLANCHE, d. of a Count of  Aquitaine .....</p>	<p>LOUIS .....  no issue.</p>	<p>ALBRADE, m. Renard,  Count of Courcy .....</p>
<p>HUGH CAPET .....</p>	<p>ADELAIDE, d. of William,  D. of Guienne.....</p>	<p>ROBERT .....</p>	<p>ADWIGA, m. Rénaud, Count  of Nevers.  ADELAIDE, m. Regnier,  Count of Hugues .....</p>
<p>ROBERT .....</p>	<p>BLANCHE, w. of K. Louis V.  BERTHA, widow of Eudes,  Count of Champagne (div.)  CONSTANCE, d. of the Count  of Provence .....</p>	<p>HUGH, died before his Fa-  ther .....  HENRY .....  ROBERT, D. of Burgundy..  EUDES .....</p>	<p>ADELAIDE, m. Rénaud, C.  of Nevers.....  ADELA, m. Richard III. D.  of Normandy. 2. Baldwin,  Earl of Flanders.....</p>

Century.	KINGS.	CONSORTS.	SONS.	DAUGHTERS.	Child. died young
XI.	HENRY I. ....	MATILDA, d. of the Emp. Conrad II. ....	<i>PHILIP</i> .....	EMMA .....	1
		ANNE, d. of Jaroslaus, Czar of Moscow .....	HUGH, m. Adelaide, d. of the C. of Vermandois....		
	PHILIP I. ....	BERTHA, d. of Florentius, Count of Holland (div.) ..	<i>LOUIS</i> .....	CONSTANCE, m. to Boemon- do, Prince of Antioch....	1
		BERTRADE de MONTFORT	PHILIP, Count of Mantes..	CECILIA, m. to Tancred, nep. to Boemondo. ....	
XII.			HENRY .....	EUSTATIA, m. John, Count of Estampes .....	
	LOUIS VI. ....	ADELAIDE of Savoy, afterw. m. Cónstable Montmorenci	PHILIP, died bef. his Father <i>LOUIS</i> .....	CONSTANCE, m. to Eustace, C. of Blois. 2. to Ray- mond, C. of Thoulouse ..	1
			HENRY, Arbp. of Rheims.. PETER, m. the heiress of the Courtenays .....		
	LOUIS VII. ....	ELEANOR, heiress of Guienne and Poitou (divorced) ..	ROBERT, Count of Dreux..	MARY, m. Henry, Count of Champagne .....	
		CONSTANCE, d. of Alphonso, K. of Castile .....		ALICIA, m. Thibault, Count of Blois .....	
				MARGARET, m. Pt. Henry of Eng. 2. K. of Hungary	

PHILIP AUGUSTUS . . . . .	ALICIA, d. of Thibault, C. of Champagne . . . . .	ALICIA, betr. to Rich. Cœur de Lion, m. C. Ponthieu . . . . .	4
	ISABELLA, d. to the Duke of Hainault . . . . .	AGNES, m. to Alexis Com-nenus . . . . .	
LOUIS VIII. . . . .	INGEBERGE, sister to Canute K. of Denmark (divorced)		
	AGNES, d. of the Duke of Dalmatia, (divorced) . . . .		
LOUIS IX. . . . .	BLANCHE, d. of Alphonso, K. of Castile . . . . .	ISABELLA, a nun, founded the monastery of Long-camp . . . . .	5
	MARGARET, d. to the Count of Provence . . . . .		
PHILIP III. . . . .	ISABELLA of Arragon . . . .	ISABELLA, m. Thibault, K. of Navarre, and Count of Champagne . . . . .	3
		BLANCHE, m. Ferdinand de la Cerda, Infanta of Castile	
		MARGARET, m. D. Brabant	
		AGNES, m. D. of Burgundy	1



Century.	KINGS.	CONSORTS.	SONS.	DAUGHTERS.	Child. died young
XIII.	PHILIP III. ....	ISABELLA of Arragon ....	PHILIP CHARLES, Count of Valois, founder of the House ....		
		MARY of Brabant .....	LOUIS, Count of Evreux, father to Philip of Na- varre.....	MARGARET, m. Edward I. of England .....	
	PHILIP IV. ....	JOAN, Queen of Navarre..	LOUIS .....	BLANCHE, m. D. of Austria ISABELLA, m. Edward II. K. of England. ....	2
	LOUIS X. ....	MARGARET, d. of the Duke of Burgundy (divorced) ..	PHILIP .....	JANE II. Queen of Navarre, m. C. d'Evreux .....	
	PHILIP V. ....	CLEMENTIA of Anjou, d. of the K. of Hungary .....	CHARLES .....	JANE, m. Eudes, Count of Burgundy .....	1
CHARLES IV. ....		JANE, d. of the Count of Burgundy .....		MARGARET, m. Louis, C. of Flanders .....	
				ISABELLA, m. the Dauphin of Vienne.....	
		BLANCHE of Burgundy, div. MARY, sister to Henry VII. Emp. of Germany .....		BLANCHE, a nun .....	
		JANE, d. of Count d'Evreux		BLANCHE, m. Philip, Duke of Orleans .....	3



XIV. { PHILIP VI. of Valois ..	JANE of Burgundy .....	JOHN, the first Dauphin, Duke of Normandy .... PHILIP, D. of Orleans and Valois .....	JOHN, m. to the Duke of Brabant .....
JOHN .....	BLANCHE of Navarre, d. to Philip, Count d'Evreux.. BONA, d. of John III. K. of Bohemia .....	CHARLES .....	JANE .....
CHARLES V. ....	JANE of Boulogne, wid. of the D. of Burgundy ....	CHARLES .....	JANE, m. Charles the Bad, King of Navarre .....
CHARLES VI. ....	ISABELLA of Bavaria ....	LOUIS, Duke of Orleans .. LOUIS, } died before their Father JOHN, } m. Jacqueline of Bavaria, CHARLES .....	MARIA, Duchess of Bar.... ISABELLA, m. John Visconti, first Duke of Milan .... MARGARET, a nun.....
		CHARLES .....	CATHARINE, m. John of Berri, C. of Montpensier ISABELLA, m. to Richard II. of Eng. 2. to Charles, D. of Orleans .....
		CHARLES .....	JANE, married John de Montfort, Duke of Bretagne .. MICHELLE, m. Philip D. of Burgundy .....
			CATHARINE, m. Henry V. of England .....
			MARY, a nun.....

Century.	KINGS.	CONSORTS.	SONS.	DAUGHTERS.	Child. died young
XV.	CHARLES VII. ....	MARY of Anjou, d. of Louis II. King of Naples.....	LOUIS ..... CHARLES, Duke of Berri ..	BODEGONDA, m. the Duke of Austria..... CATHARINE, m. the Count of Charolois ..... JOCONDA, m. the D. of Savoy JANE, m. the D. of Bourbon MADELAINE, m. Gaston, C. de Foix .....	5
	LOUIS XI. ....	MARGARET, d. of James I. K. of Scotland..... CHARLOTTE, d. of the D. of Savoy .....	CHARLES .....	ANNE, m. Pierre de Bourbon, Lord of Beaujou..... JOAN, m. Louis, D. of Orleans	4
	CHARLES VIII.....	ANNE of Bretagne .....			3
	LOUIS XII. ....	JOAN of France, d. of Louis XI. (divorced)..... ANNE of Bretagne, widow of Charles VIII. ....		CLAUDIA, m. Francis, Count d'Angoulême ..... RENEE m. Hercules d'Este, Duke of Ferrara .....	2
		MARY, d. of Henry VII. of England .....			

XVI.	FRANCIS I. ....	CLAUDIA of France, d. of Louis XII. ....	FRANCIS, died by poison .. HENRY ..... CHARLES, Duke of Orleans and Angoulême .....	MADELAINE, m. James V. of Scotland ..... MARGARET, m. Philibert, Duke of Savoy ..... LOUISA } Died unmarried CHARLOTTE } ried ....	1
	HENRY II. ....	ELEANOR of Austria, sister of the Em. Ch. V. and wid. of Emanuel, K. of Portugal CATHARINE, d. of Lorenzo de Medicis, D. d' Urbino	FRANCIS ..... CHARLES, D. of Orleans HENRY, Duke of Anjou .. FRANCIS, D. of Alencon ..	ELIZABETH m. Phil. II Spain CLAUDE, m. the D. Lorraine MARGARET, m. Henry of Bourbon, K. of Navarre ..	
	FRANCIS II. .... CHARLES IX. ....	MARY STUART, Q. of Scots ELIZABETH of Austria, d. of Em. Maximilian II. ....			
	HENRY III. ....	LOUISA of Lorraine, d. of the C. de Vaudemont .....			
	HENRY IV. ....	MARGARET of Valois, d. of Henry II. of France (div.) MARY de Medicis, d. of the Grand D. of Tuscany ....	LOUIS ..... GASTON JEAN BAPTISTE, Duke of Orleans .....	ELIZABETH, m. Philip IV. of Spain ..... CHRISTIANA, m. D. of Savoy HENRIETTA MARIA, m. Charles I. of England .....	
	LOUIS XIII. ....	ANNE of Austria, Infanta of Spain .....	LOUIS ..... PHILIP, D. of Anjou, after, D. of Orleans, m. Henrietta of England, d. of Charles I.		

Century.	KINGS.	CONSORTS	SONS.	DAUGHTERS.	Child. died young
XVII.	LOUIS XIV. ....	MARIA THERESA, Infanta of Spain, d. of Philip IV.	LOUIS, m. Maria Victoria of Bavaria, died before his father. FAMILY OF THE DAUPHIN. LOUIS, D. of Burgundy, m. Maria Adelaide of Savoy, died before his grandfather PHILIP, Duke of Anjou, K. of Spain ..... CHARLES, Duke of Berri .. FAMILY OF THE DUKE OF BURGUNDY. CHARLES, D. of Bretagne, (died young) ..... LOUIS .....		5
	LOUIS XV. ....	MARIA LECZINSKA, d. of Stanislaus K. of Poland ..		MARIA LOUISA, m. Philip, Infanta of Spain ..... ANNE HENRIETTE ..... MARIA ADELAIDE ..... VICTOIRE ..... SOPHIE ..... LOUISA MARIA, a nun .....	3

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Date	Patient	Physician	Remarks
Jan 1	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Initial examination
Jan 5	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination
Jan 10	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination
Jan 15	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination
Jan 20	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination
Jan 25	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination
Jan 30	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination
Feb 5	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination
Feb 10	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination
Feb 15	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination
Feb 20	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination
Feb 25	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination
Feb 30	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination
Mar 5	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination
Mar 10	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination
Mar 15	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination
Mar 20	John Doe	Dr. Smith	Follow-up examination



# HISTORY OF FRANCE.

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## *First Line.*

### THE MEROVINGIAN KINGS.

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#### PHARAMOND.

Who is supposed to have been the first King of that country, now called France ?

Some historians suppose that Pharamond, A.D. 420, was the first sovereign ; whilst others assert, that he was only one of those chiefs who headed the Franks in their expeditions into Gaul. He is thought to have reigned about six years. All we know of him is, that he professed paganism ; that he established the Salique law ; and was succeeded by his son Clodion. The descent, the exploits, and the consort of Pharamond are not on record. The early ages of all nations are involved in doubt and uncertainty ; nor till the time of Charlemagne and Alfred, does modern history become important or interesting.

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#### CLODION.

What is related of Clodion ?

That he extended the boundaries of his dominions

to the Somme, by the conquest of Artois and Amiens. They had before this time been confined to the country between the rivers Rhine; Meuse, and Moselle. He was distinguished by the appellation of "Le Roi Chevêlu," or, "the Long-haired;" a term which is frequently applied to the whole race of Merovingians.

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### MEROVÉE.

By whom was Clodion succeeded?

By Merovée, who joined the Romans in defeating the Huns, under Attila, at Chalons. It is not known whether Merovée inherited the throne, or by what means he obtained it: certain it is that he was a warlike and enterprising prince, and that this first race of kings was named from him. He reigned eight years, and died A.D. 456.

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### CHILDERIC I.

What have you to remark of Childeric I?

That he was so notorious for his dissolute and immoral conduct, that his subjects obliged him to fly the kingdom; that he took refuge in Germany; and that a Roman general, named Ægidius, or Gillon, was made king in his stead. During his exile, Childeric distinguished himself in the wars in Germany; and the elected King being still more obnoxious to the people than Childeric, he was restored to his dominions: these he still further extended, by the conquest of Paris and Orleans. He governed with wisdom and justice during the remainder of his life.

He married Basin, a Queen of Thuringia, with whom he became acquainted during his banishment. The tomb of Childeric was discovered at Tournai in 1653, more than eleven hundred years after his death. Some of the treasures which it contained, are yet preserved in the King's library at Paris. Childeric died A. D. 482.

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## CLOVIS,

### THE FIRST CHRISTIAN KING.

WHAT is the first action related of this monarch?

Till his time, the Kings had been so little held in consideration by their subjects, that in all their conquests they received only the same portion of the spoil as fell to the lot of each private soldier. After a great battle gained by Clovis at Soissons, the King, on surveying the booty, desired to possess a vase of some trifling value; a common soldier immediately severed it in twain with his battle-axe, declaring, that the King should have nothing more than his share. A year after, Clovis had the soldier put to death for his opposition: and by this action, the people found that their King knew how to enforce the observance of his own will. He was then only twenty years of age.

By what means did Clovis become a Christian?

By his marriage with Clotilda, a Christian Princess, daughter of a Burgundian King, whose father had been inhumanly murdered by his own brother, in order to obtain his territory.

At what particular crisis did his conversion take place?

Clotilda had, from the time of her marriage, held great influence over the mind of her consort, and had endeavoured to convert him from paganism. In a war which he carried on with the Germans beyond the Rhine, when he found his soldiers in the action giving way on all sides to the enemy, he invoked the God of Clotilda to propitiate his cause; solemnly vowing, if the victory were given him he would henceforward acknowledge no other God. His prayer was heard, and Clovis, with more than two thousand of his court and army, were baptized at Rheims.

What were the military exploits of Clovis?

He may properly be styled the founder of the French monarchy, since he took from the Gauls the provinces of Touraine, Maine, Bretagne, and Anjou; and uniting them to the possessions of the Franks, founded a considerable kingdom, of which he made Paris the capital, and there fixed his residence.

In what religious war was Clovis engaged?

In a contest with Alaric, King of the Visigoths. Clovis was a Catholic, whilst Alaric professed Arianism; on pretence of this difference of creed, Clovis made war on Alaric, and in an engagement (the battle of Vouillé) that Prince was vanquished and slain; and his large territory, south of the Loire, was added to the kingdom of the Franks.

How did Clovis end his reign?

With acts of cruelty towards the Princes of the blood, whose states he invaded, and whom he put to death. To expiate his sins, he built churches, and richly endowed them. He left four sons; viz. Thierry, Clodion, Childebert, and Clotaire, between whom he divided his kingdom.

What is the origin of the terms Champ de Mars, and Champ de Mai?

Before Clovis entered on an action with Alaric, he convoked a meeting of the heads of the nation, in an open field, to demand counsel on the affair: this meeting happened to take place in the month of March; and hence the term of Champ de Mars, or Champ de Mai, as these assemblies (which from this time became annual) were held in one or other of these months. Clovis died A.D. 512, aged forty-five, having reigned thirty years. He was buried at Paris, in the church now called St. Genevieve.

What is remarkable of Thierry, the eldest of the four sons of Clovis?

Very little is said of him: he was styled King of Metz, that being the capital of his territory, which extended from the borders of Germany as far south as Languedoc and Provence. Though he took little part in the constant disputes of his brothers, he was not averse to acts of cruelty: towards the Princes of Thuringia and Auvergne he behaved with treachery and deceit. He died before his brothers; leaving one son, Theodobert, to inherit his dominions.

What was the portion of Clodion, the second son of Clovis?

He was King of Orleans. This Kingdom comprised the provinces of Maine, Anjou, Touraine, and Berri. Clodion fell in an engagement against the Burgundians. He left three sons, two of whom were barbarously murdered by their uncles, Childebert and Clotaire; the third became a monk, and founded the Abbey of St. Cloud.

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## CHILDEBERT I.

WHAT was the kingdom of Childebert ?

He was King of Paris, and is therefore more particularly considered as in the direct line of Kings. He made several conquests in the northern provinces of Spain. He joined with his brother Clotaire in the murder of his two nephews. Childebert left no male heir.

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## CLOTAIRE I.

WHAT was the fate of Clotaire ?

On the death of his last surviving brother, Childebert, he became the sole monarch of France. His original possessions had been the kingdom of Soissons, comprising the provinces of Champagne, the Isle of France, and Normandy.

Clotaire entered on a war with the Britons, in which his rebellious son Chramme was taken prisoner. To satiate his vengeance, Clotaire caused him and all his family to be strangled, and then burnt. This reign is stained by a series of crimes and cruelties too horrid to relate. Clotaire died about a year after the execution of his son, the victim of remorse and misery. He had six wives, and four sons, who again divided the government between them.

Who were the four surviving sons of Clotaire ?

Caribert, Chilperic, Sigebert, and Goutran, who governed individually the kingdoms of Paris, Soissons, Metz, and Orleans ; with the different territories already described.

## CARIBERT.

WHAT was the character and life of Caribert ?

He is noted only for his luxury, indolence, and vices : his reign, which was very short, presents no important events. As he died without male issue, his three brothers again divided the kingdom ; and after mutual jealousies and discords, it was agreed that the kingdom of Paris should be unappropriated by any of the brothers, but should be held in common by all.

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## CHILPERIC I.

By what is the reign of Chilperic distinguished ?

By the great influence which the clergy at this period asserted over the people ; and for the intrigues and cabals of two furious women, named Frédégonde and Brunhaut ; the one consort of Chilperic, the other of his brother Sigebert. Chilperic was murdered by his wife Frédégonde, as was also Sigebert, whilst in the midst of his army. Gontran was the survivor of the four sons of Clotaire ; but on his brother's death, he did not assume any additional share in the government. These four Princes governed during a space of thirty-one years. Gontran died in 593.

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## CLOTAIRE II.

Who succeeded Chilperic I ?

His only surviving son, Clotaire. Frédégonde, his mother, acted as Regent during her son's mino-



rity, assisted by the counsel of his uncle Gontran. In this reign the Mayors of the palace first assumed an important influence in the state. Chilperic created Landri Mayor for life. Clotaire is said to have possessed shining talents for governing ; but his actions are tinged with the ferocious cruelties of the times. He, at the desire of his subjects, associated his son Dagobert in the government, before his death. He died A. D. 628, aged forty-five, having reigned forty-four years.

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### DAGOBERT I.

WHAT is said of Dagobert ?

Only that he was notorious for his luxury and for his vices. He oppressed his people with taxes, and was deservedly hated by them. He had two sons, founders of monasteries : on the death of the elder of these, Grimoald, Mayor of Austrasia, placed his own son on the throne ; and though he was soon deposed, the example served as a precedent, which was not forgotten. The succeeding sovereigns of the Merovingian race were so totally weak and incapable, that they are distinguished by the name of "*Les Rois Faineans*," and were barely *nominal* rulers of France.

What remarkable personage actually presided in the government ?

Pepin Heristal. He governed during the space of twenty-eight years, under the title of Mayor of Austrasia. He was no less renowned for his justice and clemency than for his talents. He laid the foundation of the second, or Carlovingian race of Kings.

Did not any of the succeeding Merovingians endeavour to take the government into their own hands, on the death of Pepin Heristal?

No: from the time of Dagobert, the kingly power declined rapidly; anarchy, licentiousness, and ignorance prevailed; the Kings were closely confined in their palaces, and were only visible to the people, as part of a pageant, on a gala day. Almost all the succeeding Kings came to the throne, not only *minors*, but *infants*. Very few survived to attain to maturity; and those who did were weak and imbecile.

Did the people willingly submit to the new order of things?

It appears that they did; for they joyfully accepted the services of Charles Martel, son of Pepin, who obtained the same ascendancy over the public mind, that his father had done. He delivered France from the invading power of the Saracens, who had already possessed themselves of the greater part of Spain; and in a desperate engagement near Tours, the celebrated Abdurrrhaman was slain, with three hundred thousand of his men. Charles governed for many years, beloved and respected at home, and feared by the opposing powers. He was styled Duke of France.

Did the Merovingian dynasty still continue?

Yes; one more sovereign (Childeric III.) was placed on the throne by Pepin, son of Charles Martel. Childeric held the empty name of King nine years; when Pepin took upon himself the title, as well as the power and jurisdiction of Sovereign. Thus ended the Merovingian line of Princes.

What remark have you to make generally on the French under the Merovingian Kings?

That they were impetuous, violent, and totally averse to control or restraint : that before the decline of the kingly power, they were devoted to their Sovereigns, but were cruel and implacable in their enmities. It is generally supposed, that the armies of the Franks at this epoch, consisted of Infantry only.

To what is the decline of the monarchy attributable?

To the division of the government between all the surviving sons ; which not only weakened the kingly power, but from creating endless dissensions amongst its rulers, involved the nation in all the horrors of civil war.

## Second Line.

### THE CARLOVINGIAN KINGS.

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#### PEPIN LE BREF.

OF whom was he the son?

The second son of Charles Martel, who was Mayor of the palace, to three Kings of France, Pepin also exercised that office, during the nine years' reign of the last King, Childeric. He at length compelled his sovereign to resign the throne, and to take the monastic vow. Zachary, who was then Pope, sanctioned Pepin's usurpation, in consideration of Childeric's incapacity; and he was solemnly crowned and anointed, by Archbishop Boniface, at Mentz. This is the first record we have, of anointing at coronations; a ceremony borrowed from the Jews, and till this time only known to have been used in France, at the baptism of Clovis.

In what war was Pepin engaged?

At the earnest entreaty of Pope Stephen III. he engaged in hostilities with Astulphus, King of the Lombards; who having conquered Ravenna, aimed also at uniting Rome to his dominions. On this occasion, the Pope visited Paris, and Pepin was a second time crowned, with his consort and their two

sons. By this means the government became hereditary in his family; a measure in which the French were with difficulty brought to acquiesce.

Was Pepin victorious in his engagements with Astulphus?

Yes. He not only repulsed him from Rome, but took from him the exarchate of Ravenna, which he bestowed, together with the territories of Ancona and Pentapolis, upon the Holy See for ever. This is the commencement of the temporal power of the Popes. Pepin twice crossed the Alps into Italy, in order to chastise Astulphus. He united Aquitaine to France, and made successful war against the Saxons and Bavarians.

Who espoused the cause of Astulphus?

Carloman, the elder brother of Pepin, at that time a monk. He came to court to intercede with his brother for the King; but Pepin and the Pope soon obliged him to return to his monastery.

Why was Pepin surnamed "Le Bref?"

He was called le Bref, le Nain, and le Petit, from his diminutive stature.

Whom did Pepin marry?

Bertha, daughter of a Count of Laon; a woman of ability and virtue. She was much beloved by the nation.

Mention his issue.

Charles the Great, or Charlemagne.

Carloman.

Gilles, a monk.

He had also three daughters, two of whom became nuns; the other married the Count of Angers, and was the mother of Rolando, who is celebrated in the romances of the day.

Of what did Pepin die ?

Of a dropsy, at the age of fifty-four, at St. Dennis, where he was buried. He reigned seventeen years.

#### CHARACTER.

Pepin obtained the throne by injustice ; but alike in peace or war, he governed with wisdom and prudence. Courage was one of his most distinguishing attributes.

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### CHARLES THE GREAT, OR CHARLEMAGNE.

Who was Charlemagne ?

The eldest son of Pepin and Bertha, who was, by his father's will, united in the government with his younger brother Carloman. At the end of three years, Carloman died, and Charlemagne was thus sole King of France. He ascended the throne A. D. 768, reigned forty-six years, and died in 814.

What was the first military exploit on which Charlemagne entered ?

On a war with the Saxons ; a nation at that time occupying the greater part of Germany, from the Baltic to the present kingdom of Bohemia. The Saxons were tributary to France ; and the petty Princes took every opportunity of revolting, when the death of a monarch, or foreign wars, made the kingdom less capable of opposing them. One of these insurrections took place at the very epoch when Charlemagne became sole King ; and before he had perfectly reduced the offending Princes, he was



called into Italy, to oppose Desiderius, or Didier, King of Lombardy, the successor of Astulphus.

At whose entreaty did Charlemagne turn his arms against Didier ?

At the request of Pope Adrian, Charlemagne passed over into Italy, where Didier was ravaging the papal territory. He not only conquered him, but united his kingdom to France, and was crowned with the iron crown of Lombardy.

Was not Didier personally opposed to Charlemagne ?

Yes. For Charlemagne had married and afterwards divorced Didier's daughter. In consequence of this injury, the King of Lombardy had endeavoured to place the two sons of the deceased Carloman, on the throne of France ; and Pope Adrian's refusal to second his views, brought on the altercation with the pontiff.

Had Charlemagne any further contest with the Saxons ?

Yes. His wars with that people are said to have continued more than thirty years. A series of revolts and engagements took place ; during the greater part of which time, Charlemagne was bent on converting this pagan people to Christianity. The Saxons made a long and brave defence, being equally tenacious on religious points ; but at last they were totally subdued. Wittikind, the gallant Saxon Chief, submitted, and embraced Christianity ; and Germany was added to the dominions of Charlemagne.

Did Charlemagne employ persuasion or force, in endeavouring to promote Christianity ?



It is much to be regretted, that he made use of bad means to promote a good cause. His cruelties, proceeding from bigotry rather than from a ferocious nature, were many and extensive. It was in the internal government of his kingdom, and in private life, that this Prince was truly great.

What were the other exploits of Charlemagne?

He conquered Bavaria, Hungary, part of Spain, and the islands of Majorca and Minorca.

What titles did he add to that of "The Great?"

Pope Leo III. to whom he had been essentially serviceable, proclaimed him Emperor, Augustus, and King of Rome.

What Asiatic Prince was the friend and correspondent of Charlemagne?

The celebrated Arabian Caliph, Haron al Raschid. The Arabs were, at that time, the most cultivated and polished people in the world.

What did Charlemagne for the improvement of his own country and people?

He endeavoured to promote the welfare of his subjects, by the cultivation of arts, sciences, and literature. The lower classes were the peculiar objects of his care; in all things he consulted their advantage. He promoted commerce, by the erection of bridges and the formation of roads; and had formed a plan for uniting the Rhine and Danube, by a canal. He founded public schools, established colleges, and liberally rewarded talent wherever it was to be found. The celebrated English scholar, Alcuin, was the intimate friend and companion of Charlemagne.

With what new enemy had Charlemagne to contend at the close of his reign?

With the nations of the great northern peninsula of Europe, (Norway, Sweden, and Denmark,) at that time known under the name of Normans. They made their descent on the island of Friesland, commanded by Godfrey, a Dane, and committed great depredations, which Charlemagne prepared to punish with an immense force; but the Danish leader being treacherously put to death by one of his own people, an accommodation took place, without a decisive engagement.

What was the last political act of Charlemagne?

Upon the death of his eldest son, Charles, which took place two years prior to his own decease, he associated his second son, Louis, in the government; but not before he had ascertained that he was worthy of this elevation, from the manner in which he conducted the government of Aquitaine.

Of what did Charlemagne die?

Of a fever, which at the age of seventy-two he felt must be mortal. He expired at Aix-la-Chapelle, in the forty-seventh year of his reign as King, and the thirteenth as Emperor. He was interred there, in the church of Notre Dame, which he had founded.

Name the consorts of Charlemagne.

1. Hermengarde, daughter of Didier, king of Lombardy:—divorced. 2. Hildegarde, princess of Suabia. 3. Fastrade. 4. Luitgarde.

Mention his children.

1. Charles; and

2. Pepin:—both died before their father.

3. Louis, who succeeded to the empire and kingdom.
4. Lothaire, died young ; and seven daughters.

#### CHARACTER.

Charlemagne studied the welfare of his subjects with earnestness, and endeavoured to improve their manners, as well as their condition. He was pious, temperate, and charitable ; a friend to the fine arts, and to learning in general. He administered justice with impartiality, and in all things acted with deliberation ; but his inhuman murder of more than four thousand Saxons, and the suspicion attached to the death of his nephews, are stains on his character, which time cannot efface.

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#### LOUIS I. LE DEBONNAIRE.

Who was Louis I. ?

The only surviving son of Charlemagne and Hildegarde, who had been united in the government with his father, and, on his death, succeeded him as King of France, and Emperor of the West, in the year 814. He died 840.

Did Louis fulfil the expectations which had been formed of him ?

No. He early gave proofs of weakness of character ; and from the commencement of his reign the nations under his sway began to decline ; till at last they sunk into that state of mental darkness, whence they had only been roused by the energetic and enterprising spirit of Charlemagne.

What was the first, and great error in the judgment of Louis ?

That of dividing his dominions between his three sons, Lothaire, Pepin, and Louis ; giving the eldest the chief rule over the others.

Did he not reprove the licentious conduct of his sisters ?

Yes. He caused the Princesses to retire into the respective houses allotted for them by the late King. But his prudent care for morality, was defaced by cruelty to their favourites ; some of whom he put to death with great barbarity.

Who was Bernard, King of Italy ?

He was the nephew of Louis, son of his elder brother, Pepin ; a Prince beloved by his subjects, just, brave, and liberal ; but having formed the rash design of opposing the government of his uncle, he and his nobles were condemned to have their eyes put out, under which act of torture Bernard expired ; and Louis, touched with remorse, performed public penance for his barbarity, in a council held at Thionville.

Did not his children rebel ?

Yes. On the death of Ermangarde, Louis married a Bavarian Princess, by whom he had one son, Charles. Having already divided his dominions amongst his three elder sons, they openly broke into rebellion ; when, to gratify the ambition of his consort, he made a fresh division of the government. The Princes drove their father from his throne, and compelled him, with his consort, to take refuge in a monastery.

Was Louis restored to his throne ?

Yes. Through the manœuvres of a monk, named Gondebrand. But a second and third rebellion, occasioned by fresh divisions of the empire, again de-

posed Louis ; and Lothaire, seconded by Pope Gregory IV. arraigned his father, to answer for the crimes of sacrilege and murder. Louis made a public confession of his sins, and laying aside the *kingly* for the *penitential* garment, retired to his cell. The public indignation was roused at the inhuman conduct of Lothaire : he was obliged on his knees to beg for life and mercy of his father, who was once more seated on the throne. On the death of Pepin, Louis, his third son, rebelled, and this unfortunate Monarch was marching to oppose him, when he was suddenly taken ill and died.

To what is the immediate death of this King to be attributed ?

At the age of seventy-two the common course of nature would be supposed a sufficient cause of dissolution ; but an eclipse of the sun happening at the time that Louis became indisposed, he, with superstitious weakness, considered it an omen of his approaching end. He refused all nourishment, and at the end of six weeks expired, in an island of the Rhine, near Mentz, in the twenty-seventh year of his reign. He was buried in the church of St. Arnoul, at Metz, in Lorraine.

Name the consorts of Louis I.

1. Ermengarde.
2. Judith of Bavaria.

Mention his children.

1. Lothaire, Emperor of the West, and King of Italy.

2. Pepin, King of Aquitaine.

3. Louis, King of Bavaria ; called the German.

4. Charles, who succeeded him, and four daughters.



## CHARACTER.

Louis was by nature designed rather for the cloister than for the throne. He endeavoured to repress irregularity of manners, and to administer justice with impartiality. He was pious, liberal, and charitable. But timid, wavering, and superstitious; he was wanting in all those qualities which could ensure the love of his children, or support the dignity of his kingly station.

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## CHARLES II. LE CHAUVÉ.

OF whom was he the son?

Of Louis I. and Judith. He succeeded his father in 840, when Lothaire, in violation of the most solemn oath, endeavoured to oppose his brother-in-law's accession to the throne of France, and his own brother Louis's claim to the kingdom of Bavaria.

How were his pretensions set aside?

Though Lothaire was superior in ability, to either Charles or Louis, yet these, by uniting their interests, were able to resist the unjust claims of their brother. Lothaire was defeated in battle on the plains of Fontenai, in Burgundy, and was compelled to take refuge in Aix-la-Chapelle. It is said that one hundred thousand men fell in this action.

Was not Lothaire declared incapable of governing even his own dominions?

Yes. But this politic Prince, proposing terms of peace, they were accepted, and a new partition of the once extensive dominions of Charlemagne ensued. In this division it was, that Louis had the provinces

on the other side the Rhine allotted to him, and obtained the name of Louis the German.

Were there no foreign wars during these civil commotions ?

Yes. Incursions and depredations prevailed throughout the kingdom. Aquitaine and Bretagne revolted ; the Saracens pillaged Italy, and became masters of Sicily ; while the ambition of the nobles, and the overbearing spirit of the clergy, threatened the most fatal revolutions.

What was the end of Lothaire ?

Being seized with a dangerous disorder, he resigned his kingdom of Italy, and became a monk, thinking thus to atone for the crimes of a whole life. At the expiration of a week he died, leaving his dominions to his three sons, who in consequence of an amicable treaty into which Lothaire had entered with his two brothers, (Charles and Louis,) were suffered to take possession of their respective dominions in peace.

Did not the Normans, (as they were then called,) who had begun their depredations under Charlemagne, and continued them under Louis, also make a descent on France in this reign ?

Yes : these pirates ravaged the country, sacked the towns, even Paris and Rouen ; and the weak and timid Charles, could only effect their retreat by the offer of large sums of money, which they accepted, upon Charles acknowledging Nomenoga as Duke of Bretagne, and confirming the title to his son Herispée.

Was there not a contest for the kingdom of Italy,



late the possession of Lothaire, and to which his three sons had quietly succeeded ?

Yes. Louis the German disputed this empire with Charles ; but death put an end to his projects. The eldest son of Louis being left heir of his father's small German territories, Charles made an attack on him, but his army being defeated, he retreated into Italy, where, overcome with shame and anxiety, he was seized with a violent fever, and was at last poisoned by a Jewish physician named Sédécias. He had reigned thirty-eight years in France, and two in Germany.

Where was he buried ?

First at Nantua in Burgundy ; but his remains were afterwards interred at St. Denis.

Name the consorts of Charles II.

1. Ermentrude. 2. Richilde, sister to Boson, King of Arles.

Mention his children.

1. Louis, who succeeded to the throne, and five other sons, who died before their father.

7. Judith, who married Ethelwolf, King of England, and two other daughters, who took the veil.

By Richilde he had two sons, who died in infancy.

#### CHARACTER.

Charles had few virtues, and many defects ; the last act of his reign, by which he permitted the nobles to transmit their offices to their sons or heirs, was one of the principal sources of disorder in the feudal government. From this reign may be dated the total degradation of the Carlovingian race.

## LOUIS II. LE BEGUE.

Who was Louis le Bègue ?

The only surviving son of Charles II. and Ermen-trude ; he was surnamed le Bègue, from the hesitation in his speech, and succeeded his father A. D. 877, in the twenty-ninth year of his age.

Did he succeed peaceably to the dominions of his father ?

No : the nobles hesitated whether they should not rather bestow the crown on some other descendant of Charlemagne, as Louis had not obtained any grant from his father during his life. However, his mother-in-law Richilde, who had received the insignia of royalty from the deceased monarch, becoming favourable to his interest, Louis was crowned King of France, first at Rheims, by Archbishop Hincmar ; secondly by Pope John VIII. He did not succeed to the empire, and may be said to have secured his kingdom, only by heaping honours and offices on the nobles, and promising the clergy all the privileges and emoluments, they chose to demand.

Where did Louis die ?

At Compiègne, on his march into Italy to chastise Bernard, Marquis of Septimania, who had revolted against him. He was buried in the abbey church of that city. He reigned little more than eighteen months.

Mention his consorts.

1. Ansgarde. 2. Adelaide.

Name his children.

1. Louis ; and

2. Carloman :—who reigned jointly.
3. Charles le Simple, afterwards King.

#### CHARACTER.

Louis had from his infancy an infirm and delicate state of health, which made him incapable of great undertakings ; but towards the close of his very short reign, he gave proofs of talents for governing, since he began to make himself feared by his turbulent and refractory nobles.

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### LOUIS III. AND CARLOMAN.

Who were they ?

The sons of Louis II, and Ansgarde, who succeeded their father A. D. 879.

What is recorded of these Princes ?

They were remarkable, no less for the harmony which subsisted between them, than for their courage ; this they displayed in an engagement with the Normans, whose incursions they repulsed, and whom they defeated in a signal victory at Vinceaux.

Who was Boson ?

An ambitious noble, who having (to answer his own purpose) promoted the accession of the two Princes, by intrigue and artifice, caused the duchy of Arles to be erected into a kingdom, and to be bestowed on himself by the Pope and clergy.

What two Kings joined Louis and Carloman in opposing the Normans ?

Louis of Bavaria, and Charles le Gros, King of Lombardy ; both sons of Louis the German.

How long did Louis and Carloman reign ?

Louis reigned only three years. He was seized at Tours with a fatal disease, of which he expired at St. Denis, deeply deplored by his subjects. Carloman survived his brother only a few months ; he was killed accidentally in a boar-hunt, by the erring javelin of one of his attendants.

Both these Princes were buried at St. Denis.

They died unmarried.

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### CHARLES LE GROS.

To whom did he succeed ?

To his cousins, Louis and Carloman, A. D. 884, though the throne lawfully belonged to Charles, the posthumous son of Louis le Bégue, brother to the late sovereigns.

Who was Charles le Gros ?

The son of Louis the German, who as we have before seen, was the third son of Louis I. Charles was already Emperor of the West in his own right ; and by the death of his brother Lothaire, had also become King of Italy. By intrigue on his own part, and the minority of the rightful heir, the nobles of France bestowed on him also the vacant throne of that kingdom ; and thus the empire of Charlemagne was again united in one person, excepting only the kingdom of Provence, which the usurper, Boson, still maintained.

Had the French cause to approve their choice ?

No : Charles soon manifested a deficiency in qualities necessary for supporting the weight of such an extensive government. Having invited Godfrey, a Norman Prince to a conference, in violation

of the laws of hospitality and good faith, he caused him, and several nobles in his train, to be assassinated.

How did the Normans revenge this treacherous deed?

They entered the Seine, which they covered for the space of two leagues, with their vessels. Having burnt Pontoise, they ascended the river to Paris and Rouen, to the former city they laid siege, and during a year and half, it was furiously attacked, and as bravely defended.

Did the King in person endeavour to defend his capital?

No; he remained at Frankfort, whence he was content to send supplies to Paris, under the valiant Henry, Duke of Saxony, who more than once repulsed the besiegers. At length, when affairs became desperate, and the French were clamorous in demanding the return of their King, Charles, on the death of Duke Henry, appeared on the heights of Montmatre, and there erected his standard. Awed however, by the firm and unyielding courage of the enemy, he consented to a disgraceful treaty. On receiving seven thousand pounds weight of silver, the Normans agreed to withdraw their forces: but as this could not be immediately paid, the pusillanimous monarch allowed the enemy to winter in Burgundy, and to commit the most dreadful depredations.

What became of Charles le Gros?

Despised in France, he was glad to make his escape into Germany, where his subjects scorned to obey a Prince who had so grossly dishonoured him-



self: he was driven from his throne, and but for the charitable aid of Luitpert, Bishop of Mayenne, must have perished from want.

Name the commanders at the siege of Paris?

Sigefroi, on the part of the Normans; Bishop Ganzelin, Eudes and Robert, (sons of Robert the Strong,) on the part of the French.

Where did this wretched monarch expire?

At the village of Richenove, in Suabia, three months after his deposition, either from grief or by poison; he was buried on an island in the lake of Constance. The name of his consort (whom he divorced) was Richarda; but whence her descent we are not told. Charles died without issue in the fourth year of his reign. He was the last Emperor of Germany who reigned in France; the royal and imperial crowns having never since been united.\*

#### CHARACTER.

Charles was defective in understanding, and has therefore claims on our pity: but his treacherous cruelty to Godfrey, proves him wanting in the virtues of justice and humanity.

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#### EUDES.

Who was Eudes?

The son of Robert the Strong, who died in an en-

\* In order to avoid the confusion which has arisen in history, from giving the appellation of Charles IV. to Charles le Simple, and again to Charles le Bel, Charles le Gros, who was justly only Emperor of Germany, and Regent of France, is not numbered amongst the French sovereigns.

gagement against the Normans. Eudes, Count of Paris, distinguished himself during the siege in the last reign, in A. D. 888. He was called to the throne of France, either as King or Regent, during the minority of Charles III., on condition that on that Prince attaining his majority, Eudes should cede his government.

Were the people unanimous in their choice of a ruler.

Yes: the French, mindful of his own and his father's military prowess, unhesitatingly declared in favour of Eudes.

By what remarkable event is this period distinguished?

By a decided victory gained over the Normans in the forest of Montfaucon, and by the earnest and repeated efforts of Eudes, to repress the overbearing pride and ambition of the nobles. Eudes held the reins of government ten years.—Charles, having attained the age of sixteen, was crowned, though till his twentieth year, he did not reign alone.

When did Eudes die?

In the year 898, a few months subsequent to his relinquishing all share in the government. He died at la Fère, in Picardy, and was buried at St. Denis. His only son, an infant, survived him but a few days.

#### CHARACTER.

Eudes possessed the talents and moderation, which best adorn the kingly station. He was beloved by the people whom he governed; dreaded by the nobles, whom he justly opposed; and esteemed by the Normans, whom he vanquished.



## CHARLES III. LE SIMPLE.

Who was Charles III?

The posthumous son of Louis le Bègue and Adelaide. He assumed the government A.D. 893, assisted by the counsels of Eudes, for the four subsequent years.

Whence his surname?

He was called simple, from his weak and credulous mind, which was manifested from the time he began to act for himself.

With what enemies had Charles to contend?

With the Princes and the Barons, who at home had usurped and encroached on the regal power: abroad he was harassed by the Normans, who under the command of Rolla, a celebrated chieftain, had become more than ever formidable to France.

How did Charles weakly enter into a compromise with Rolla?

He bestowed on him all that part of France then called Neustria; comprehending the country from the Oise to the Somme, to which Rolla now gave the name of Normandy: Charles also gave him his daughter Gizele in marriage, requiring only his conversion to Christianity. With this demand Rolla willingly complied, and at his baptism took the name of Robert.

Did Charles, after this arrangement, reign in peace?

No; the dismemberment of France was highly displeasing to the nation; and they publicly upbraided the monarch, for his weak and pusillanimous proceedings. Robert, (brother to Eudes,) at the head of the malcontents, threw off his allegiance.

Through the intervention of Hervé, Archbishop of Rheims, a truce was agreed on for a year ; but during that time, Charles having recalled his obnoxious favourite, Heganon, Robert gave him battle at Soissons. Robert was slain, it is supposed, by the King's hand, but his son Hugh remained master of the field.

Was Hugh then declared King ?

No : he offered the throne to Rodolph, Duke of Burgundy, who had married his sister ; and Rodolph was accordingly crowned at Soissons, though Hugh really governed, without the title of King ?

What became of Charles ?

He was treacherously made prisoner by Herbert, Count of Vermandois, who confined him for the remainder of his life to the chateau Thierrî. Charles died A. D. 929, at Peronne, in the fifth year of his captivity, and was buried in the abbey of St. Fourcy.

Name his consorts.

1. Gizelle.

2. Edgyva, daughter of Edward the elder, King of England, and grand-daughter of Alfred.

Mention his children.

1. Louis, son of Edgyva.

2. Gizelle, who married Rolla, Duke of Normandy.

#### CHARACTER.

Charles was not deficient in bravery, but he was too weak in mind to make even this quality subservient to wise and good ends.

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## RODOLPH.

Who was Rodolph ?

Duke of Burgundy ; placed on the throne of France by Hugh the Great. He was proclaimed King A. D. 924, more than four years before the death of his predecessor.

What were the exploits of Rodolph ?

A continual struggle for power prevailed during the time of Charles's captivity, between his partisans and those of Rodolph. France was the theatre of incessant wars. Rodolph also gained an important victory over the Normans.

Where did Rodolph die ?

At Auxerre, in Burgundy, 936. He was buried at Sens. Rodolph dying without issue, the crown again fell into the hands of Hugh the Great.

## CHARACTER.

Rodolph was pious, generous, courageous, and considered the interests of the country he was appointed to govern.

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## LOUIS IV. D'OUTRE MER.

Who was Louis IV ?

Only son of Charles le Simple, and his second wife Edgyva ; who, during the captivity of her husband, had fled to England with her infant son for protection ; hence Louis obtained the title of d'Outre Mer, or the Stranger. He ascended the throne in 936 ; died 954.

By whom was he recalled to France and placed on the throne ?

By Hugh the Great. Athelstan, uncle of Louis, being on the throne of England, demanded and received hostages for the safe conduct of his nephew. Hugh acted as prime minister during the early part of this King's reign : but when he had attained his twentieth year, Louis endeavoured to free himself from his power ; and the constant quarrels of the King and Hugh, involved the nation in continual wars. However, after numerous struggles, peace was concluded, upon the country of Laon being ceded to Hugh.

Had Louis no foreign enemies to oppose ?

Yes. He endeavoured to recover Lorraine from Otho, Emperor of Germany ; but without effect. Otho afterwards became his ally, and assisted in reducing the power and pretensions of Hugh.

What occasioned the death of Louis ?

A fall from his horse, whilst pursuing a wolf in the neighbourhood of Rheims. He was buried in the church of St. Rémi, in that city.

Whom did he marry ?

Gerberga, sister to the Emperor Otho ; widow of Gilbert, Duke of Lorraine.

Mention his children.

1. Lothaire, who succeeded to the throne.
2. Charles, Duke of Lorraine.
3. Matlida, married to Conrad, King of Burgundy.
4. Albrade, wife to Renard, Count of Courcy.

#### CHARACTER.

Had Louis lived in happier times he would have

made a shining character, since his military and political talents were great ; but his ingenuous disposition laid him open to the deceit and machinations of the designing.

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## LOTHAIRE.

Who was Lothaire ?

Eldest son of Louis IV. and Gerberga, who succeeded his father A. D. 954. Like his predecessors, he was under the surveillance and controul of Hugh, who survived the accession of Lothaire only two years.

What is recorded of Hugh the Great ?

That, without being King, he reigned twenty years in France, with absolute sway. He married a daughter of Louis II. ; was brother-in-law to Otho, Emperor of Germany, to Edward of England, and to Louis d'Outre Mer ; was father-in-law to Richard, Duke of Normandy ; and uncle to Lothaire the reigning monarch, and his brother Charles.

What were the military exploits of Lothaire ?

He made war on Otho II. for the recovery of Lorraine ; but unsuccessfully : for Otho artfully disconcerted his measures, and bestowed Lorraine on Charles, the brother of Lothaire.

Did not this conduct provoke fresh hostilities ?

Yes. And Lothaire, enraged that his brother should be benefited at his expense, marched with a powerful army into Aix-la-Chapelle, where he defeated Otho. But being himself vanquished in a second engagement, Lorraine was at last divided between his brother Charles and Otho.



Did he not make successful war on Baldwin III. Count of Flanders ?

Yes. He took from him the Flemish towns of Arras and Douay, and obliged him to sue for peace.

What occasioned the death of Lothaire ?

His death took place at Rheims, in the thirty-second year of his reign. Some historians assert that he was poisoned ; others, that he died a natural death. He was buried in the church of St Rêmi.

Mention his consort.

Emma, daughter of Lothaire, King of Italy.

Name his children.

Louis, who succeeded him.

#### CHARACTER.

Lothaire was courageous, active, and vigilant, like his father. His great defect was, a frequent violation of his word.

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### LOUIS V. LE FAÎNÉANT.

Who was Louis V ?

The only son of Lothaire, who had been associated with his father in the government, and, through the intervention of Hugh Capet, quietly succeeded to the vacant throne on his death, A. D. 986.

How long did he reign ?

Hardly twelve months. His mother, Emma, having been driven from the kingdom with ignominy, for her dissolute conduct, the Emperor, Otho the Great, her brother, was preparing to enter France with a powerful army, to vindicate her cause, when



the young King died;—poisoned, it is supposed, either by his mother or his consort, to each of whom he was an object of aversion.

Where was he buried ?

At St. Corneille, in Compiègne.

Who was the consort of Louis V. ?

Blanche, daughter of a nobleman of Aquitaine. Louis died without children, and with him ended the Carlovingian line.

#### CHARACTER.

Louis appears to have been undeserving the appellation bestowed on him : his reign did not allow sufficient space for any great achievements ; but in the very short time he acted as King, he manifested courage and activity.

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Into how many branches may the Carlovingian Kings be divided ?

Into three, since they have occupied the three thrones of Italy, France, and Germany ; and each of these three branches have ended with a Louis. Though there are generally reckoned thirteen Kings, from Pepin le Bref to Louis V., there are, strictly speaking, but eleven Carlovingian Princes ; since Eudes and Rodolph are not of the line of Kings.

### Third Line.

## THE CAPETIAN RACE.

THE FIRST BRANCH OF THE CAPETINES.

HOUSE OF CAPET DIRECT.

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### HUGH CAPET

WHEN did he ascend the throne ?

A. D. 987; died 996, in the tenth year of his reign, aged fifty-five.

Who was Hugh Capet ?

Son of Hugh the Great, Count of Paris, grandson of Robert the Strong, and a lineal descendant of Pepin le Bref, the first of the Carlovingian Princes.

Whence his appellation of Capet ?

According to some historians, he derived this name from the immoderate size of his head. According to others, he gained it from his prudence and sagacity.

By what right did he claim the throne of France ?

Louis V. dying without children, his uncle Charles, Duke of Lorraine, was heir to the crown; but this Prince having incurred the hatred of the French nation, Hugh Capet, then the most powerful and popular subject, aspired to the throne, and gained it without bloodshed.

To what cause did he owe his success ?

Partly to the state of anarchy and confusion in

which the kingdom was involved, and partly to his own clemency, and the permission which he gave to the different powerful nobles, to retain those governments of which they had taken possession, and which, under the name of feifs, thence became hereditary in their respective families.

After Hugh Capet had allowed the nobles to retain their respective governments, who was the first openly to resist his commands ?

Aldebert, Viscount of Perigord. He laid siege to Tours, and the King, fearing to have recourse to arms, sent letters to desire that he would raise it ; at the same time mingling in them a reproach which taxed him with ingratitude. "Who made you a Count ?" said the sovereign. "It was not you," was the haughty reply ; "but those who made you a King." This example had its due influence, and many disturbances ensued during the subsequent reigns, which materially lessened the royal authority.

Name the great feudatories of the crown, and their possessions.

To the north were the Dukes of Brittany and Normandy ; the Counts or Dukes of Flanders, who governed that part which now forms Holland and the Netherlands, with the Counts of Vermandois, who were masters of Picardy, and of nearly the whole of Champagne. From this house sprang the Counts of Champagne. To the east, beyond the Soane, Alsace and the provinces bordering on the Rhine, were under the domination of the Dukes of Burgundy and Lorraine. To the south were the duchies of Gascony and Aquitaine, and the county of Thoulouse ; the former duchy included the whole extent of country be-

tween the Garonne and the Dordogne; the latter, which would have been the most considerable fief in the kingdom, (had it been united under one chief,) was at this time torn by the intestine commotions of its ambitious nobles, who erected separate and almost independent establishments. Such were the Sires of Bourbon, the Dukes of Auvergne, the Counts of Bourges, la Manche, Angouleme, and Perigord.

What were the possessions of the crown?

All that remained to the King in full and entire sovereignty, was the duchy of France, which comprehended the town and county of Paris, Orleanois, the Chartrain, Perche, the counties of Blois, Touraine, Anjou, and Maine, with some towns and fortresses in Artois, Piccardy, Champagne, and Burgundy.

What nobles were styled peers of France?

Those who held their fiefs immediately from the crown under the feudal system. The number was not limited; but in time it was confined to twelve, six lay and six ecclesiastical peers. The former were the Dukes of Burgundy, Normandy, and Aquitaine; with the Counts of Flanders, Champagne, and Thoulouse. The latter, the Archbishop of Rheims, and the Bishops of Laon, Langres, Chalons on the Marne, Noyon, and Beauvais.

What may be said of this period?

From the accession of Hugh Capet to that of St. Louis, (a space of two hundred and forty years,) may be termed a history, not of its monarchs, but of its nobles; during which time the authority of King was extinct, although the name continued to exist.

Whom did Hugh Capet marry?

1. Adelaide, daughter of the Duke of Guienne.
2. Blanche, widow of Louis V. : by her he had no children.

Where did he die ?

At Paris. This city had been much neglected by the Carlovingian Princes. Hugh Capet made it his principal residence ; he was buried in the church of St. Denis, which henceforth became the usual cemetery of the French Kings.

Mention the children of Hugh Capet.

1. Robert, who was united with his father in the government.
2. Hadwige, married to Renard, Count of Nevers.
3. Adelaide, married to Regnier, Count of Hugues.
4. Gisella, married to Hugh, Count of Ponthieu.

#### CHARACTER.

Some historians have regarded Hugh Capet as a hero whose talents justly merited a crown ; while others have represented him as a pious sluggard, indebted to fortune solely for his elevation. The more generally received opinion is, that he swayed the sceptre he had acquired with justice and moderation, and added dignity to the royal name by his virtues.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

988. Hugh Capet associates his son Robert in the government, and causes him to be crowned at Orleans.

989. Charles, Duke of Lorraine, enters France ; makes himself master of Laon ; gains Rheims, by the treachery of Archbishop Arnoul, his relative ; and obtains a great victory at Hugues.



990. The Duke of Aquitaine takes up arms in favour of Charles ; but not being promptly supported by that Prince, he is reduced to submission.

991. Charles betrayed by Ascelin, Bishop of Laon, is made prisoner, and confined in the tower of Orleans, where he dies. The figures of arithmetic brought into Europe from Arabia by the Saracens.

996. Otho III. makes the empire of Germany elective.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Ethelred II. (a Saxon.)

*Spain.*—Sancho II. Garcias II.

*The Empire.*—Otho III.

*The Papacy.*—John XVI. Gregory V.

#### ROBERT LE PIEUX.

WHEN did he ascend the throne ?

A. D. 996 ; died 1031, aged sixty, after a reign of thirty-five years.

Who was Robert ?

The only son of Hugh Capet and Adelaide. He was, with the exception of St. Louis, the most virtuous monarch that ever filled the throne of France.

What extraordinary instance is recorded in this reign, of papal interference ?

Robert had married his cousin Bertha, the widow of Eudes, Count of Champagne ; and as their relationship was within the degrees of consanguinity prohibited by the church, it was usual, in such cases, to procure a dispensation from the court of Rome. Robert having neglected to conform to this practice, Pope Gregory pretended to regard the omission as a



defiance of his authority, and he consequently annulled the marriage. Robert, who was tenderly attached to his Queen, used every means to prevent a separation; but his negotiation proved fruitless, and upon Robert's refusing to comply with the commands of the pontiff, he punished him with excommunication.

What effect had this sentence on the King?

He at first affected to disregard its power; but such were the superstitious fears of the people, that they avoided all communication with their Sovereign. His nobles shunned his presence, and his palace was deserted. Only two domestics remained to attend on him; and these purified with fire, every vessel that he had touched. Robert at last consented to part from Bertha; and after a severe penance, he was reconciled to the church.

Whence arose the claims of Robert upon the duchy of Burgundy?

Some historians say, they were in right of his wife Bertha, who was daughter of Conrad, King of Burgundy. According to others, he claimed it as the lawful heir of his uncle Henry, Duke of Burgundy, brother to Hugh Capet, who had died without children. Henry, previous to his death, had adopted Otho William, son of his wife Gerberge, as his heir; and he now disputed with Robert the possession of this territory. After a severe contest, Robert was victorious, and bestowed the duchy upon his eldest son.

With what domestic anxieties had Robert to contend?

The violent and jealous temper of his second con-

sort, Constance, rendered her insupportable even to her own children. All her sons, at different times, withdrew from the court, and raised the standard of revolt. Through the mild expostulations of Robert, the Princes returned to their duty, and were restored to the confidence of their father.

What were the ordinary occupations of the King ?

His time was usually passed in study, in acts of devotion, and of charity. So far did he carry his ideas of Christian humility, that on every Holy Thursday, in imitation of our Saviour, clothed in sackcloth, he washed the feet of three hundred poor people, and distributed food to them on his knees. From this time the custom was observed by the French monarchs, of washing the feet of twelve poor people, on Holy Thursday, and of waiting on them at table, assisted by the Princes of the blood ?

What caused the death of Robert ?

He was attacked by a fever at Melun, which terminated his life. His body was conveyed to Paris, and interred at St. Denis.

Whom did Robert marry ?

1. Bertha, daughter of Conrad, King of Burgundy, and widow of Eudes, Count of Champagne. By her he had no children. 2. Constance, daughter of William, Count of Provence and Thoulouse.

Mention his children.

1. Hugh, who died before his father.
2. Henry, who succeeded to the throne.
3. Robert, Duke of Burgundy.
4. Eudes, according to some writers Bishop of Auxerre.

5. Adelaïde, married to Rénaud, Count of Nevers.

6. Adela, married first to Richard III. Duke of Normandy, and afterwards to Baldwin, Earl of Flanders.

#### CHARACTER.

Robert was distinguished for his piety, moderation, and prudence. His learning was great for the age in which he lived. The welfare of his kingdom was his constant study; and though he loved peace, he was ever ready to uphold the dignity of his crown, and to defend the interests of his kingdom. His virtues have been extolled by all writers; and it has been said of him, that "He was King of his passions as well as of his people." His excessive compassion for the sufferings of others, might be almost deemed a weakness, as it led him to support those in idleness who might, if left to their own exertions, have become useful subjects. By his people he was extremely beloved, and his death was regarded throughout France, as a great calamity. Robert was skilled in music, and composed several hymns.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

997. Gregory excommunicates the King and Queen.

1000. Robert divorces Bertha and marries Constance. This last Princess introduces a taste for poetry in France, which was afterwards improved by the Troubadours.

1001. Eudes, Count of Champagne, son of Bertha, takes possession of Melun; but is obliged to restore it.

1003. Otho William is compelled to abandon his pretensions to the duchy of Burgundy.

1006. Henry II. Emperor of Germany, claims the right of Lord Paramount over Flanders. Robert disputes it, and at last establishes his own. The King promotes an accommodation between the Emperor of Germany and the heiresses of Charles of Lorraine.

1007. Hugh is associated in the throne, and crowned at Compeigne.

1022. Death of Hugh. Henry, Robert's second son, is crowned at Rheims.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Ethelred II. Edmond Ironside. Canute.

*Spain.*—Sancho III.

*The Empire.*—Otho III. Henry II. Conrad II.

*The Papacy.*—Gregory V. Silvester II. John XVII. John XVIII. Sergius IV. Benedict VIII. John XIX.

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### HENRY I.

WHEN did he ascend the throne?

A. D. 1031; died 1060, aged fifty-four, having reigned twenty-nine years.

Who was Henry?

The second son of Robert and Constance. Although he had been crowned four years before his father's death, he found some difficulty, through the intrigues of the Queen Mother, in establishing himself on the throne.

Why was Constance opposed to Henry's interest?

Finding that she possessed no influence over the King, Constance excited Robert, his brother, to revolt. Eudes, Count of Champagne, and Baldwin, Earl of Flanders, entered into her views, and she had many partizans in France and Burgundy. Henry, at first, unable to resist this faction, fled from Paris, and placed himself under the protection of Robert, Duke of Normandy, who supplied him with a powerful army, and by his assistance the King was enabled to reduce the Queen and her party to submission.

How did the King behave to his brother Robert?

Henry, with much generosity, freely pardoned him, and invested him with the duchy of Burgundy. From this Prince sprang the first royal branch of that house, which reigned over the duchy for nearly four centuries.

How was the Duke of Normandy benefited by the assistance he had given?

The towns of Gisors, Chaumont, and Pontoise, were ceded to him, with part of the Vexin. This territory was situated between the Oise and the Epte, and thus the Norman frontier extended to within a few leagues of Paris. The Vexin became afterwards the subject of great contention between the Norman Dukes and their Sovereign.

Who continued to disturb the tranquillity of the kingdom?

Prince Eudes, another brother of the King, who, assisted by some of the refractory nobles, aimed at



sovereign power. After committing dreadful devastations, he was at last made prisoner, and confined at Orleans.

Against whom did Henry make war ?

Against William, Duke of Normandy, afterwards William I. of England. Henry had previously assisted in crushing a conspiracy which had been formed against William, whilst a minor ; but he subsequently turned his arms against this powerful vassal. The King's efforts, however, were unsuccessful ; and having been worsted in several encounters, peace was concluded between them.

What was the " Trêve de Dieu," or truce of God ?

It was a peace entered into in order to restrain the unceasing warfare of the nobles, and to give some respite and security to the peasantry. It was ordained, that all military operations and acts of violence should cease from Saturday at noon, till sun-rise on Monday.

Whom did Henry marry ?

1. Matilda, sister of the Emperor Conrad II. by whom he had no children. 2. Anne, daughter of Jaroslaus, Czar of Muscovy.

What occasioned Henry's death ?

Medicine administered improperly, is said to have caused his death, at Vitri en Brie. He was buried at St. Denis.

Mention his children.

1. Philip, who succeeded him.
2. Robert, who died young.
3. Hugh, who married Adelaide, daughter of Herbert, Count of Vermandois.
4. Emma, whose fate is unknown.



## CHARACTER.

Henry was a Prince of great valour and exemplary piety ; by his prudence and sagacity he defeated the machinations of an unnatural mother ; and by his activity and courage, he maintained his authority, in the midst of an ambitious and powerful nobility, whilst he secured their respect by his many noble qualities.

## REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1031. The revolt of Robert, brother to the King. Death of Constance, the Queen Mother.

1032. Marriage of the King with the Princess Matilda.

1040. Prince Eudes takes the field, with his confederates : the Counts of Champagne and Chartres are defeated, and taken prisoners.

1046. The battle of Val de Dunes, in which Henry assists young William of Normandy, to free himself from those nobles, who wish to deprive him of his possessions. Some Norman adventurers establish themselves in Italy, and lay the foundation of the kingdom of Naples and Sicily.

1059. Henry provides for the safety of the kingdom, by the association of his son Philip in the government, who is crowned at Rheims.

## CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Canute. Harold Harefoot. Hardicanute. Edward the Confessor.

*Spain.*—Sancho III., who divides his dominions amongst his three sons. *Arragon.*—Ramirez I.

*Castile*.—Ferdinand I. *Navarre*.—Garcia IV. Sancho IV.

*The Empire*.—Conrad II. Henry III. Henry IV.

*The Papacy*.—John XIX. Benedict IX. Gregory VI. Clement II. Damasias II. Leo IX. Victor II. Stephen IX. Benedict X. Nicholas II.

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## PHILIP I.

IN what year did he ascend the throne?

In 1060; died 1108, having reigned forty-eight years, aged fifty-five.

Who was Philip I?

The eldest son of Henry I. and Anne of Muscovy, who had been crowned during the life-time of his father, and was only eight years of age, when, by his death, he became King of France.

Under whose care was he brought up?

By Baldwin, Earl of Flanders, a Prince equally eminent for virtues and abilities. He did every thing that prudence and foresight could suggest, to cultivate the mind and improve the disposition of the young King; but notwithstanding all his efforts, he could never inspire him with that ardour and love of study, so essentially necessary, in the exalted station which Philip had now attained.

How did Baldwin, when Regent, reduce the revolting nobles to obedience?

Amongst the most refractory, were the Gascon chiefs. Baldwin, under pretence of assisting the Christians in Spain against the assaults of the Moors, assembled a numerous army, and passing through Gascony at the head of it, (as it was supposed, on his

way into Spain,) he suddenly fell on the towns and fortresses, and extorted that submission, sword in hand, which he had failed to obtain by more gentle means.

What remarkable event occurred in a neighbouring kingdom at this time?

The conquest of England, by William, Duke of Normandy. The Norman subjects of this Prince were averse to the undertaking, fearing that they might eventually be made tributary to England: but the craft and policy of William overcame their scruples, and they furnished him with men and money at their private expense. Baldwin also permitted William to levy troops in France, giving him pecuniary aid; and Henry IV. of Germany not only followed his example, but promised on oath to protect the duchy of Normandy from invasion during the Duke's absence.

What was the age of Philip on the death of Baldwin?

He had just attained his fifteenth year; and though it had of late been established by precedent, that the Kings of France should not assume their regal functions till the age of twenty-one, it does not appear that Philip had any other guardian. Baldwin's death was sincerely regretted. He was a loss to the nation at large, and a still greater loss to the young King, who was at that period of life when reason is yet weak and unformed, and the passions strong and ungovernable.

What was the first hostile engagement into which Philip entered?

On a war with Robert, Earl of Flanders, who had

usurped the crown, to the prejudice of his own nephews. Philip was defeated at Cassel, and cemented an union with his adversary, by marrying his daughter-in-law, Bertha, whose father was Florent, Duke of Friesland.

Whence arose the enmity between Philip and William I. of England?

The assistance which Philip gave to William's eldest son, Robert, whilst that Prince was at variance with his father. In actual hostilities against Philip, the English monarch lost his life, before the city of Mantes, in 1187.

Why did Philip divorce his first consort, Bertha?

No plausible reason can be assigned for this conduct: a doubtful degree of consanguinity afforded the pretence. The unhappy Bertha was banished to Montreuil, where she died of a broken heart.

What disgraceful conduct is related of Philip with regard to Emma, daughter of Roger, Count of Sicily?

This lady having been asked in marriage by Philip, was sent, richly portioned and adorned with jewels, to the court of France; Philip dishonourably detained her some days, and at last sent her home, stripped of her jewels, and portionless.

Why was Philip excommunicated?

For having repudiated Bertha, and married Bertrade de Montfort, whilst his consort and hers were both living. It was in that very council of Clermont, in which Urban II. first sanctioned the crusades, that he pronounced the sentence of excommunication on Philip. On the death of Bertha, the edict was revoked.

What was the character of Pope Urban, and what did he, towards furthering the interests of the crusades?

This pontiff possessed an exalted genius, well fitted for the command of great enterprises. It appears that Gregory VII. had, prior to this period, formed a project for wresting Jerusalem from the infidels; and that he was only prevented from executing his scheme, by his quarrels with the Emperor Henry IV. Under him Peter the Hermit had witnessed the persecution of the Christians; and he now applied to Urban, to excite the same enthusiastic ardour amongst Princes with which he was himself animated in their behalf. Urban entered fully into Peter's views: he convened a council at Piacenza, and another shortly after at Clermont, at which Princes, Nobles, and Prelates attended. In a short time an army of seven hundred thousand men was assembled, eager to embark on the expedition to Palestine.

Name the principal crusaders in this first expedition.

Raymond, Count of Thoulouse, Hugh the Great, brother of Philip; Robert, Duke of Normandy; Godfrey de Bouillon; Eustace and Baldwin, his brothers; Boëmondo, and Tancred. After having suffered innumerable hardships, and inflicted dreadful cruelties, the Christians took the city of Jerusalem; but by far the greater number of the crusaders perished on the plains of Asia.

What religious orders had their rise in this reign?

Three; the Knights Hospitallers, the Knights Templars, and the Teutonic Knights. Coats of arms



and heraldic bearings were first worn by the crusaders.

How did Philip pass the last years of his life ?

In sensual gratifications. He patronised the crusade with money and forces, but took no active part in it. About eight years previous to his death, Philip caused his son Louis to be crowned, and invested with a share in the government. Under such a monarch as Philip, the country was not likely to flourish, more especially when all the wealth and talent of the nation was employed in such an enterprise as the crusades. The refractory nobles again rebelled, and Prince Louis displayed a judgment and valour in subduing them, which justly established his reputation.

Where did Philip die ?

At Melun, and was at his own desire buried in the abbey of St. Benedict, in the Loire.

Name the consorts of Philip I.

1. Bertha, whom he divorced. 2. Bertrade de Montfort.

Mention his children.

1. Louis, who succeeded him.
2. Henry, who died young.
3. Constance, married to Boëmondo, Prince of Antioch.

By Bertrade he had,

4. Philip, Count of Mantes.
5. Henry.
6. Cecilia, married to Tancred.
7. Eustatia, wife of John, Count d'Etampes.



## CHARACTER.

Philip was distinguished by personal beauty. He had courage and even talent, if he could have been brought to cultivate it to any good purpose; but sunk in indolence, he was despised, rather than feared by his people. He was the slave of his inclinations, which he manifested in continuing to countenance Bertrade, whose ambitious wishes for her own son, led her twice to attempt the life of Prince Louis.

Name the remarkable events.

1063. The Turks take Jerusalem from the Saracens.

1068. William I. the Norman, builds the White Tower of London.

1073. The celebrated Hildebrand, (Gregory VII.) enters on his pontificate.

1075. Quarrel between Gregory VII. and the Emperor Henry IV. of Germany, gives rise to the two factions of Guelphs and Ghibelines.

1080. Henry deposes Gregory from the papacy, and places Clement III. in the chair.

1095. The first crusade.

1100. Philip associates his son Louis in the government.

## CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Harold II. William I. William II. Henry I.

*Spain.—Castile.*—Ferdinand I. Sancho II. Alphonso I. and VI. of Leon.

*Arragon.*—Garcia IV. } Sancho Ramires, Sancho  
*Navarre.*—Sancho IV. } V. Peter I. Alphonso I

*The Empire.*—Henry IV. Henry V.

*The Papacy.*—Nicholas II. Alexander II. Gregory VII. Victor III. Urban II. Paschal II.

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## LOUIS VI. LE GROS.

WHEN did he ascend the throne ?

In 1108 ; died 1137, in the thirtieth year of his reign, and the sixtieth of his age.

Who was Louis Le Gros ?

The eldest son of Philip I. by Bertha. He had been crowned during the life-time of his father, but received a second coronation at Orleans, when he became sole Monarch of France.

Did Henry I. of England, who had favourably received Louis when he fled from the persecutions of Bertrade, continue on amicable terms with him ?

In the beginning of his reign, Louis favoured Henry's attempts to deprive his elder brother, Robert, of the duchy of Normandy ; but Henry having broken his promise of delivering up the fortress of Gisors to him, he espoused the cause of Robert's son. Many battles ensued. Louis and his army were defeated with great slaughter at Andelis. It was at last agreed, that Prince William, eldest son of Henry I. of England, should hold the duchy of Normandy as a vassal of France ; and Henry had just been over with his son William, to receive the homage of his Barons, when on his return, the young Prince was accidentally drowned.

What heroic act is related of Louis, at the battle of Andelis ?

When an English soldier, seizing hold of the bri-

dle of his horse, exclaimed, "The King is taken!" "Know you not," replied the monarch, "that at chess the King is never taken?" and immediately feiled the soldier to the ground.

What is related of Adelaide of Savoy, consort of Louis VI?

That in the bloom of youth and beauty, surrounded with all the wealth and luxury which a court could bestow, she devoted herself to the care and education of her children: she presided over their studies, and by example as well as precept, endeavoured to guide them in the paths of virtue and knowledge.

On what account did war again break out with England, and why did Henry V. of Germany oppose Louis?

On the death of Henry's son, a claim for the duchy of Normandy was put in by the adherents of Robert, who wished to place his son William in possession of his father's right. Louis favoured the party of the young Prince, whilst the Emperor of Germany espoused the cause of his son-in-law, Henry I. of England.

Whom did Louis appoint as ministers of state and generals of his forces?

Four brothers, named Gertrades, were honoured with his confidence, and with the principal dignities at court; and as they were in all things deserving the exalted station to which they were advanced, they are not to be deemed favourites.

What became of Philip, eldest son of Louis VI?

He died shortly after he had been made a partner in the government, to the great regret of his royal

parents, and of the nation. On his death, Louis associated his second son, Louis, in the regal power, who was then called "Le Jeune," to distinguish him from his father.

What improvement did Louis effect in the government?

He established the Tiers Etat, or third branch of the legislature, diminished the exorbitant power of the feudal Lords, enfranchised the bondmen, and sent commissioners into the provinces to redress the wrongs of the oppressed. The Abbé Suger, under whom Louis had been educated, was his chief counsellor. The celebrated Abelard, so highly distinguished for the graces of his person and the elegance of his diction, flourished in this reign.

Where did Louis die?

At Paris, almost immediately after the marriage of his son, to whom he gave the most salutary advice for governing. He was buried at St. Denis.

Name the consort of Louis VI.

Adelaide of Savoy, by whom he had eight children.

Mention them.

1. Philip, who died before his father.
2. Louis, who succeeded him.
3. Henry, Archbishop of Rheims.
4. Robert, Count of Dreux.
5. Hugh : died young.
6. Peter, who married Isabella, heiress of the Courtneys.
7. Philip : died young.
8. Constance, married, first to Eustace, Count of Blois ; and secondly to Raymond, Count of Toulouse.

## CHARACTER.

Louis possessed no shining talents as a King, or statesman, but his disposition was excellent, and his love of justice inflexible. Though he obtained the appellation of "Le Gros" during the latter part of his reign, he does not appear to have been either slothful or inattentive to the duties of his station. Historians agree, that he was one of the best men that ever swayed the sceptre of France.

## REMARKABLE EVENTS.

Not any other than those already recorded in the reign.

## CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Henry I. Stephen.

*Spain.—Castile.*—Alphonso I. and VI. of Leon.

*Urraca.* Alphonso II. and VIII. of Leon.

*Arragon.* } Ramirez II.

Alphonso I.

*Navarre.* } Garcia V.

*The Empire.*—Henry V. Lotharius II.

*The Papacy.*—Paschal II. Gelasius II. Calistus II. Honorius II. Innocent II.

## LOUIS VII. LE JEUNE.

WHEN did he come to the throne?

In 1137; died 1180, in the sixtieth year of his age, and the forty-fourth of his reign.

How had he been brought up?



By the Abbé Suger, under the surveillance of his mother, Queen Adelaide.

In what cause did Louis contend with Thibault, Count of Thoulouse.

Rodolph, Count of Vermandois, having married the niece of Thibault, afterwards divorced her to marry the sister of Eleanor, the Queen of Louis VII. The Pope favoured Thibault, threatened Rodolph with excommunication, unless he recalled his first consort, and also promised to lay France under an interdict, if Louis should protect Rodolph. But the King was not to be intimidated ; he entered Champagne, the territory of Thibault, sword in hand, and reduced him to submission.

What occasioned the burning of the town of Vitri, and what was the result of this affair ?

On the submission of Thibault he had promised to intercede with the Pope to revoke the interdict ; but Louis, finding his promise disregarded, once more entered Champagne, and having taken the town of Vitri, set fire to the parish church, and thirteen hundred persons perished in the flames. Impressed with sentiments of deep remorse, Louis reconciled himself to Thibault and the Pope, and prepared for an expedition to Palestine, to expiate his crime.

What Princes entered on the second crusade, and by whom was it principally promoted ?

Conrad III., Emperor of Germany, and most of the Princes of Europe ; it was preached by St. Bernard, Abbot of Clairvaux, and patronised by Pope Eugenius III.

What was the military and moral conduct of the crusaders ?



This great army, which amounted to three hundred thousand persons, was unskilled and undisciplined: the troops were accompanied by women, children, and the dregs of the cities and towns, who committed devastation, and plundered wherever they went.

What was the issue of this crusade?

The treason of the Greeks under Manuel Comnenus, the independence of the chiefs, the want of discipline in the troops, all effected the ruin of the crusaders. The forces of Louis and Conrad were both defeated by the Saracens: only a wreck of that immense army which had departed from the plains of Vezelai in Burgundy, returned to Europe; and thousands of ruined families execrated St. Bernard, for his visionary promises, and their credulous King, for being ensnared by them, and thus leading them on to their own destruction.

How was Louis received on his return to France?

With reproaches for having caused the destruction of so many thousands of his people. These, and his own reflections on the subject, are said to have changed the naturally mild and gentle temper of the King. France, however, was well governed by the Abbé Suger, who had used every means in his power to deter Louis from entering on the crusade, and who was instrumental in recalling him at last to his native land.

What is related of Queen Eleanor, who had accompanied her consort to Palestine?

Whilst in that country, she had disgraced herself

by an intrigue with the Prince of Antioch : on his return, Louis divorced her ; but willing if possible to shield her character from reproach, he urged the plea of consanguinity. He also generously returned her dower, the rich and fertile provinces of Poictou and Guienne. Six weeks after her divorce, Eleanor married Henry of Anjou, afterwards Henry II. of England.

How was Louis doubly connected with Thibault, Count of Champagne ?

By his own marriage with Alicia, daughter of Thibault, and that of his two daughters with two brothers of the same.

What occasioned the rupture between Louis and Henry II. of England ?

The protection granted by the former to Thomas à Becket, to whom he gave an asylum in the monastery of St. Columbe, at Sens, when driven out of England by his sovereign. A Legate sent by Pope Alexander III., to whom both Princes had been equally favourable, reconciled these differences ; and they met at Montmirail en Maine shortly after, where Margaret of France was contracted to young Henry of England, and Richard Cœur de Lion to Alice.

Did not Louis VII. visit England ?

Yes. His only son Philip being seized with a fever, the superstitious King determined to visit the shrine of St. Thomas à Becket at Canterbury, to entreat his intercession for Philip's recovery. The saint was supposed to be propitiated by the most rare and costly gifts, and Philip recovered.

What occasioned the death of Louis ?

Great fatigue attendant on his journey to England, which he performed in five days. On his return to France he was seized with a fit of apoplexy and paralysis, which prevented his attending the splendid ceremony of his son's coronation. Louis remained in a state of imbecility some months, and at last expired at Paris, in the sixtieth year of his age. He was buried at the abbey of Barbareux, near Melun, which he had founded.

Name the consorts of Louis VII.

1. Eleanor of Guienne and Poictou. 2. Constance, daughter of Alphonso, King of Castile. 3. Alicia, daughter of Thibault, Count of Champagne.

What children had Louis ?

1. Philip Augustus, by Alicia.
2. Mary, married to Henry I. Count of Champagne.
3. Alice, married to Thibault, Count of Blois.
4. Margaret, married to Henry of England ; secondly to the King of Hungary.
5. Alice, contracted to Richard Cœur de Lion ; married afterwards the Count of Ponthieu.
6. Agnes, affianced to Alexis Comnenus.

#### CHARACTER.

Louis was exemplary for his piety, generosity, and honourable feeling ; and excepting the affair at Vitri, committed no act of violence or oppression. He died regretted by his people.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1146. Louis enters on the second crusade.

1152. Divorce of Eleanor of Guienne.

1162. The Kings of England and France meet the Pope (Alexander III.) at Torcy sur Loire, and each humbly taking a rein of his horse, conduct him in triumph to the citadel.

1170. Murder of Thomas à Becket.

1179. Louis visits the shrine of the saint.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Stephen. Henry II.

*Spain.*—*Castile.*—Alphonso II. and VIII. of Leon. Sancho III. Alphonso III. and IX. of Leon. *Arragon.*—Petronilla and Raymondo. Alphonso II. *Navarre.*—Garcia V. Sancho VI.

*The Empire.*—Conrad III. Frederic I. Barbarossa.

*The Papacy.*—Innocent II. Celestine II. Lucius II. Eugenius III. Anastasius IV. Adrian IV. Alexander III.

#### PHILIP II. AUGUSTUS.

IN what year did he ascend the throne?

In 1180; died 1223, in the fifty-eighth year of his age, having reigned forty-three years.

Who was Philip Augustus?

The only son of Louis VII. by his third consort, Alicia of Champagne. At his birth his royal father bestowed on him the epithet of “*Dieu donné*,” or the gift of God. It was in after life that he received the titles of Conqueror and the Magnanimous; on his death that of Augustus was also added.

At what age did Philip succeed his father?

He had just attained his fifteenth year. He had,

during the last months of his father's life, set his seal on several public acts solely; and though he allowed Philip of Alsace to retain the name of Regent, he displayed evident symptoms of a thirst for dominion.

Was not the Regent displaced?

Yes. Through the management of Alicia, the Queen Mother, who was jealous of his power, Robert Clement, of Metz, who had presided over the education of Philip, was appointed to the nominal office: but dying in a few months, he was succeeded by his brother; and he also dying very shortly after, at the age of eighteen, Philip abolished the Regency.

What was the first cause of contest between the Kings of France and England in this reign?

On the death of Henry (eldest son of Henry II.) Philip demanded a return of his sister's dower; which Henry, by artifice, sought to evade, promising to hasten the consummation of his son Richard's marriage with Alice, Philip's other sister, provided he might retain the territories before ceded to his son Henry. The marriage being long delayed, Philip declared war on Henry; and his son Richard took several strong places in the vicinity of the Loire; and both parties were on the point of an engagement, when a Legate from Pope Urban III. averted the battle, by threatening excommunication to the sovereign who should strike the first blow. A truce was accordingly agreed on for two years.

Did not Philip enlarge and embellish the city of Paris?

Yes. He extended the capital on all sides, by enclosing the neighbouring villages. He strengthened



the fortifications, increased the buildings, widened and paved the streets, and established rules for the preservation of cleanliness and order.

What crusade was undertaken in the early part of this reign ?

The third. Its object was to subdue the mighty Saladin, King of Egypt, who had reconquered almost all the boasted acquisitions of the Christians in the two former crusades, and was rapidly extending his conquests all over the eastern world. This crusade was supported by a tax, called "Saladin's Tax:" it consisted of the tenth part of the income of all such as should not personally enlist in the service.

Did the Kings of England and France join in this expedition ?

They were on the point of doing so, when Henry II. and Philip again broke out into hostilities. The latter, with perfidious treachery, induced Richard to throw off his allegiance to his father ; for which, as it delayed the crusade, he was excommunicated by Cardinal Albano, the Pope's Legate. At this crisis Henry II. of England died, and Richard succeeding to the throne, immediately joined Philip in the expedition to Palestine.

Was this army better organised than the two former had been ?

Yes. Many good laws were enacted for the maintenance of order among the troops. The two monarchs having vowed eternal friendship, set out, the one for Genoa, the other for Marseilles. They met at Messina, and there wintered.

What was the issue of this undertaking ?



When the Princes arrived in Palestine, both young, ardent, and ambitious, they forgot their plighted faith ; and the only fruit of all their vast labour was the conquest of St. Jean d'Arc.

Did not the two Princes disagree before they reached Palestine ?

Yes. Several causes of dispute arose between them at Messina : amongst the principal was Richard's union with Berengaria of Navarre, when he was contracted to Philip's sister ; but she, by her ill conduct, had become justly obnoxious to Richard.

Under what auspices did Philip and Richard leave Palestine ?

Jealous of the superior achievements of Richard, Philip, on plea of bad health, returned to France, bent on injuring his rival at home : he even applied to Pope Celestine III. to absolve him of an oath he had taken, not to intermeddle with the affairs and estates of the English monarch during his absence. Richard, left alone in Palestine, added fresh honours to his name ; but, on his return, was unfortunately taken prisoner by order of Henry VI. of Germany.

What act of perfidy is related of Prince John towards Philip ?

At Evreux Philip had afforded shelter to John, when his brother Richard returned from Palestine ; and this treacherous Prince, wishing to be reconciled to Richard, proclaimed a feast in the town, to which three hundred of the principal inhabitants were invited. At the end of the repast, they were all murdered, and the place delivered up to the English.

Why and by whom was Philip excommunicated ?

By Pope Innocent III. for having married Agnes

de Meranie, during the life-time of his former consort, Ingelberga of Denmark. Innocent also laid the kingdom under an interdict, and Philip was obliged to restore Ingelberga to the throne. Agnes de Meranie died of grief.

What happened at Vendome, when Philip and Richard were about to enter into action?

The rear-guard of the French army was surprised by Richard; and these, according to the custom of the times, bore with them, the state-papers, treasures, crown-jewels, and other valuables of the King and state; amongst these were the archives of the kingdom, which Richard would never restore. It is said they are still preserved in the Tower.

Why did Philip summon John, now become King of England, to appear before him?

To answer for the murder of his nephew Arthur, Duke of Bretagne. The Brétons appealed to Philip for redress, and on John's neglecting the summons, his duchy of Normandy was declared forfeited to France.

Was there not a fourth crusade begun at this time?

Yes. The adventurers, chiefly French and German, were headed by Baldwin, Earl of Flanders. Several Princes, but no crowned heads, joined the expedition. Constantinople, a Christian city, was taken and plundered by Christians, and Baldwin was declared Emperor. The Venetians, and the Marquis de Montferrat, shared with him the provinces of the Greek empire.

Who were the Albigenses?

A people inhabiting Languedoc and the other southern parts of France, of which Albi was the

capital. They were professing Christians ; but many parts of their creed were so contrary to the established tenets of Christianity, that they were considered heretics. Simon de Montford waged a cruel war against the Albigenses, which only terminated with his life. Raymond, Count of Thoulouse, was their great champion.

Between whom was the battle of Bouvines ?

Between the Emperor Otho IV., John, King of England, and Ferrand, Count of Flanders, against Philip of France. The latter was victorious, and the Count of Flanders was made prisoner.

How had Philip enlarged his dominions ?

He had conquered Normandy, Touraine, and Anjou ; recovered Picardy and Artois ; united Auvergne to his kingdom, and captured many towns in the south and west. After the death of John, whom Philip justly regarded as a personal enemy, he passed the remainder of his life in establishing peace and justice in his kingdom, and in restoring tranquillity to the persecuted Albigenses.

Where did Philip die ?

At Mantes. He was buried in the royal cemetery at St. Denis.

Whom did Philip marry ?

1. Isabella, daughter of the Duke of Hainault.
2. Ingelberga, sister of Canute, King of Denmark.
3. Agnes, daughter of the Duke of Dalmatia.

What children had Philip ?

He had by Isabella three children, only one of whom survived him, viz.

Louis.

By Agnes he had two children, who died in infancy.

## CHARACTER.

Philip was a politic and enterprising Prince ; noble and imposing in appearance, affable in manner. By his warlike achievements he greatly enlarged his dominions, at the expense of England. His conduct to his mother, and to his second consort, Ingelberga, is extremely reprehensible. He involved his people in the horrors of an interdict ; yet so much did they glory in his military exploits, that he was generally beloved by them.

## REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1187. Saladin takes Jerusalem.

1189. Third crusade under Frederic I., Philip II., and Richard II.

1200. The first mention is made of the mariner's compass.

1206. Philip establishes the University of Paris.

1215. The English Magna Charta signed.

1220. Astronomy and Geography introduced into Europe by the Moors.

## CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Henry II. Richard I. John. Henry III.

*Spain.*—*Castile.* Alphonso III. and IX. of Leon. Henry I. Ferdinand III. *Aragon.*—Alphonso II. Peter II. James I. *Navarre.*—Sancho VI. Sancho VII.

*The Empire.*—Frederic I. or Barbarossa. Henry VI. Philip, and Otho IV. Frederic II.

*The Papacy.*—Alexander III. Lucius III. Urban

III. Gregory VIII. Clement III. Celestine III.  
Innocent III. Honorius III.

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### LOUIS VIII. LE LION.

WHEN did he ascend the throne ?

In 1223 ; died 1226, in the thirty-ninth year of his age, and in the fourth of his reign.

Who was Louis VIII ?

Only surviving son of Philip and Isabella of Hainault. He had not been associated in the government during his father's life-time. Louis had been called over to England, on the entreaty of the Barons, to take the crown, and rescue them from the tyranny of John : but no sooner had Louis landed in England, than the Pope, having received the submission of John, forbade him to aspire to the throne ; and the death of the English monarch obliged Louis to withdraw his troops.

What cause of offence did Henry III. of England offer to Louis ?

He refused to appear at his coronation as a vassal of France : and he demanded a restoration of the provinces which Philip had before taken from England. Upon this conduct a war ensued, in which Louis captured several towns on the banks of the Garonne. He would have added still further to his conquests, but Honorius III. aroused his attention to another war, which was commencing against the Albigenses. Here it was that Louis took the city of Avignon.

What occasioned the death of Louis ?

Some historians imagine that he was poisoned by



Thibault, Count of Thoulouse; others, that his death was brought on by a contagious disorder, occasioned by the excessive heat of the climate in the south of France. Louis died at Montpensier, in Auvergne, and was buried at St. Denis.

Whom did Louis marry?

Blanche, daughter of Alphonso, King of Castile.

Name his children.

He had eleven children, six of whom survived him.

1. Louis, afterwards King.
2. Robert, Count of Artois.
3. John, Count of Anjou : died young.
4. Alphonso, Count of Poitiers.
5. Charles, Count of Anjou and Provence ; King of Naples.
6. Isabella, a nun ; she founded the monastery of Longchamp.

#### CHARACTER.

The reign of this Prince is so short that there is little to remark on his kingly powers. French historians agree, that " whilst Louis is celebrated for being the son of a great King, and the father of a great saint," he was also great himself, by his virtues and courageous exploits ; hence the name of " Lion," by which he is distinguished.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1225. Louis lays siege to Rochelle. The order of Franciscan Friars, or Cordeliers established under Honorius III.



## CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Henry III.

*Spain.*—*Castile.*—Ferdinand III.    *Arragon.*—  
James I.    *Navarre.*—Sancho VII.

*The Empire.*—Frederic II.

*The Papacy.*—Honorius III.

## LOUIS IX. LE SAINT.

WHEN did he ascend the throne?

In 1226; died 1270, in the fifty-sixth year of his age, and the forty-fifth of his reign.

Who was Louis IX?

The eldest surviving son of Louis VIII. and Blanche of Castile. As he was only twelve years of age when his father died, that monarch had, on his death-bed, nominated his consort, Regent.

What intestine commotions were there in France during the Regency?

Various seditions arose amongst the nobles, who considered the weakness of a woman, and the youth of a minor, a favourable juncture in which to raise the standard of revolt. Amongst the disaffected, one of the most important was the Count of Thoulouse; but the prudence and firmness of Blanche defeated this and every other plot against the government.

At what age did Louis attain his majority?

At twenty-one; the Queen gave up the sceptre, but continued to assist her son with her prudent counsels, and acute penetration. At this time, also,

the Queen formed advantageous marriages for Louis and her other sons.

What were the principal occurrences of this reign, before Louis entered on a crusade ?

Louis defeated Thibault, Count of Champagne, refused the Empire of Germany (offered to him by Pope Gregory IX.) for his brother the Count d'Artois, and subdued the Count de la Marche, and his ally the King of England.

Why did Louis engage in a crusade ?

Louis had from his earliest years devoted all his cares and thoughts to the interests of religion. Having been seized with a dangerous malady, he made a vow to take the cross, nor could any remonstrance dissuade him from his purpose. He was employed three years in making preparations for the voyage.

By what artifice did Louis enlist his courtiers in the service of the crusades ?

Finding that many of them were averse to the measure, he contrived to inveigle them into compliance. It had been the custom, on the solemn festivals of the church, at which the King assisted, that he should distribute uniforms to the attendants, which they wore over their other garments, in the form of a cape, or mantle. At the midnight mass, on Christmas-eve, the King, as usual, presented all his court with the ordinary gift, on the back of each of which he had caused a cross to be embroidered. The artifice was not discovered till the following morning, when the courtiers finding themselves thus pressed into the service, (though inadvertently,) looked on the engagement as binding.

What part of the royal family accompanied Louis to Palestine? and who governed France in his absence?

His three brothers, Alphonso, Robert, and Charles, with the Queen Margaret and her sister. The Queen Mother, Blanche, was again appointed Regent.

Where was Louis made prisoner?

At Massoura, where Count Robert of Artois was killed. The King's two brothers and all his nobility were made captives. This crusade, like all the preceding, ended in disappointment. The French army, consisting of sixty thousand men, the flower of the kingdom, either fell victims to intemperance, or were defeated by the Sultan. All the French had gained was the possession of Damietta.

What caused Louis to return to France?

The death of the Queen Regent. The city of Damietta was given up for his personal ransom, and an immense sum of money was paid for the release of his two brothers.

In what state did Louis find his kingdom?

In great confusion, for Blanche had permitted a fanatic to preach a new crusade, for his release. These crusaders, who were called shepherds, assembled in great numbers, and robbed and pillaged the country wherever they came. The King was obliged to disperse them by force of arms.

On what terms did Louis live with the other Princes of Europe?

On terms of peace and amity. The integrity of his character inspired general confidence and esteem. He restored to their rightful owners many of the re-

cent acquisitions of France; and in England and other countries, where his judgment was asked as umpire, he recommended mercy and forbearance in Princes, fidelity and submission in subjects.

What crown was offered to Charles, Count of Anjou, brother to Louis?

That of the two Sicilies, by Urban IV. Mainfroy had usurped this throne, to the prejudice of his nephew Conradin, grandson of Frederic II. Conradin was afterwards executed at Naples; but Prince Charles made himself detested by his tyranny, and it is considered a blemish in the character of Louis, that he sanctioned his brother's advancement to the throne.

Where did Louis die?

At Tunis, where he had advanced on another crusade. On his road to Palestine he was seized with a pestilential disorder prevalent in the camp. He expired, entreating his son with his last breath, to serve and honour God, and to study the happiness of his people. His body was buried in the abbey of Montreal, near Palermo; his head was brought to St. Denis.

Whom did Louis marry?

Margaret, daughter of the Count of Provence.

Mention his children.

1. Louis, who died young.
2. Philip, who succeeded his father.
3. Peter, Count d'Alençon.
4. Robert, from whom the Bourbons claim their descent.
5. Isabella, married Thibault, King of Navarre, and Count of Champagne.

6. Blanche, married the Infanta of Castile.
7. Margaret, married the Duke of Brabant.
8. Agnes, married the Duke of Burgundy.

## CHARACTER.

The justice and integrity of Louis are no less eminent than his mildness and humanity. To these virtues he added the courage and magnanimity of a hero. The few errors into which he fell, arose from an excess of zeal for religion. His loss was most sincerely deplored by the nation. He was canonized, many years after his death, by Pope Urban IV.

## REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1228. The Emperor, Frederic II. of Germany, projects a new crusade, in which he is subsequently joined by St. Louis.

1244. The Tartars take possession of Palestine.

1253. The college of the Sorbonne, for the study of divinity, instituted at Paris, by Robert de Sorbonne, Confessor to the King.

1258. Seven Electors first appointed to decide on the choice of an Emperor of Germany.

1259. The order of Augustine Monks first established in their convent at Paris.

1264. Louis calls an assembly of the States General at Amiens, where, in the presence of Henry III. of England, and his rebellious subject, de Montfort, he decides the contested point, having been chosen umpire by mutual consent of the disputants.

1270. Louis compiles a code of laws, for the better administration of justice, known by the name of "Les Etablissements de St. Louis."



## CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Henry III.

*Spain.*—*Castile.*—Ferdinand III. Alphonso IV. and X. of Leon. *Arragon.*—James I. *Navarre.*—Sancho VII. Theobald I. Theobald II.

*The Empire.*—Frederic II. Conrad IV. William of Holland. Richard, Duke of Cornwall.

*The Papacy.*—Honorius III. Gregory IX. Celestine IV. Innocent IV. Alexander IV. Urban IV. Gregory X. Clement IV.

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## PHILIP III. LE HARDI.

WHEN did he ascend the throne?

In 1270; died 1285, in the forty-first year of his age, having reigned fifteen years.

Who was Philip III?

The second son of Louis IX. and Margaret of Provence. His elder brother Louis died in childhood.

Where was Philip at the time of his father's decease?

He was with him at Tunis, engaged in the crusade. He was seized with the same disorder which had proved fatal to Louis. As Philip was unable to return to Europe, he immediately dispatched messengers to France, confirming the Regents and ministers of state in their respective offices. Matthew, Abbot of St. Denis, Simon de Clermont, Lord of Nesle, both men of probity and talent, were the Regents appointed by St. Louis.

When did Philip return to France?

The following year, after having defeated the infidels, and concluded a truce of three years with the



King of Tunis. In Sicily the King lost his Queen, his brother, his brother-in-law, his uncle and aunt, besides other relatives : his reign therefore began in sorrow, for the first act of Philip was to perform the funeral obsequies of his deceased friends.

What acquisition was made to the crown of France at this time ?

By the death of Alphonso, Count of Thoulouse, and his consort, the provinces of Poictou, Auvergne, Saintonge, and Aunis devolved to the crown.

Did the King remain a widower ?

No. Four years after the death of his first consort, Philip was united to Mary, sister to John, Duke of Brabant, one of the most accomplished and beautiful princesses of her day ; but neither her mental nor personal recommendations were safeguards against the malignant treachery of an envious minister, named La Brosse.

Who was this Pierre de la Brosse ?

A native of Touraine, who, from the obscure situation of a provincial surgeon, had, through the partiality of the King, been raised to the office of Chamberlain, and was in fact the King's confidential minister. His brother was made Bishop of Bayeux, and his children were all splendidly established.

How had the young Queen incurred his enmity ?

La Brosse was actuated by no other motive than jealousy. He perceived the influence which Mary had obtained over her royal consort, and fearing the decrease of his own power, in proportion as the Queen's augmented, he resolved to injure her reputation, and, if possible, to effect her ruin. The King's eldest son, by a former marriage, dying suddenly, La Brosse

caused the King to be secretly informed, that he had been poisoned by his mother-in-law.

Was not the affair investigated ?

Yes. The Duke of Brabant sent over a knight, as champion to the Queen, his sister, who offered to confront her accuser in single combat ; but he refused to appear, and was instantly put to death. Five years afterwards a sealed paper was delivered to the King, from a dying monk, on the receipt of which he immediately ordered La Brosse to be hung. The contents of the paper were never disclosed ; but it is with appearance of probability imagined, that they contained the elucidation of this affair, as well as an account of the treachery of La Brosse, in betraying the King's secrets to the Castilians, with whom he was at war.

What is meant by the Sicilian vespers ?

The murder of all the French resident in the Isle of Sicily ; which took place during the celebration of the vesper, or evening service, on Easter Sunday, 1282. It is said, that in the short space of two hours, only one Frenchman remained alive on the island.

What occasioned this horrid massacre ?

In the last reign we have seen that the kingdom of Naples was given to Charles of Anjou, son of Louis VIII. The severity of his government, together with the insolence and licentiousness of the French troops, excited the detestation of his Sicilian subjects. John de Procida, a Neapolitan noble, is said to have encouraged the revolt. Pope Nicholas III. who was opposed to Charles of Anjou, was an abettor of it, though he died before it was carried into effect.

Peter, King of Arragon, who had married the daughter of the deposed monarch, Mainfroy, was proclaimed King, and Charles of Anjou was obliged to quit the island.

Did Charles make no effort to recover his throne?

Yes. And it was at length agreed, that he and Peter should decide their cause by single combat, at Bourdeaux, at the expiration of six months. Charles arrived at the appointed time and place, but Peter failed to appear; upon which Martin IV. then Pope, excommunicated him, and not only forbade his assuming the crown of Sicily, but bestowed his kingdom of Arragon on Philip of France, for his second son, Charles of Valois.

What became of Charles of Anjou?

He had, by concessions and promises, nearly effected a reconciliation with the Sicilians, when his son coming to an engagement with the fleet from Arragon, (contrary to his father's express command,) was taken prisoner, and Charles was so much affected by the circumstance that he committed suicide.

What is the last act recorded of Philip?

The defeat which his forces, by sea and land, experienced, when he went over to Arragon, to take possession of that throne for his son. Philip was on the point of retiring, but had not proceeded beyond Perpignan, when he was taken ill from fatigue and disappointment, and expired at that place. He was buried at St. Denis.

To whom was Philip married?

1. To Isabella of Arragon. 2. To Mary of Brabant.

Mention his issue.

1. Louis, who died at twelve years of age.
2. Philip, who succeeded him.
3. Charles, Count of Valois, founder of the house.
4. Robert, who died young.
5. Louis, Count of Evreux, father to Philip, King of Navarre.
6. Margaret, married to Edward I. of England.
7. Blanche, married Rodolphus, Duke of Austria.

#### CHARACTER.

Philip was liberal and humane ; attentive to the welfare of his subjects, and though not deficient in spirit, he was anxious for the preservation of peace. By accepting the crown of Arragon he tacitly acknowledged the right of the Pontiff to dispose of kingdoms at his pleasure. No action on record seems to entitle Philip to the epithet of “ Le Hardi,” or “ The Bold,” by which he is distinguished.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1273. Empire of the present House of Austria begins, under Rodolph of Hapsburgh.

1282. Wales united to England. William Poucelet, a French gentleman, on account of his upright conduct, is preserved from the general massacre at the Sicilian vespers.

1285. Philip was the first French monarch who granted letters of nobility. They were bestowed on Ralph, a goldsmith.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Henry III. Edward I.

*Spain.*—*Castile.*—Alphonso IV. and X. of Leon.

Sancho IV. *Arragon*.—James I. Peter III. *Navarre*.—Henry I. Joanna I.

*The Empire*.—Richard, Duke of Cornwall. Rodolph of Hapsburgh.

*The Papacy*.—Clement IV. Innocent V. Adrian V. John XX. Nicholas III. Martin IV.

### PHILIP IV. LE BEL.

WHEN did he ascend the throne?

In 1285; died 1314, in the forty-sixth year of his age, and the thirtieth of his reign.

Who was Philip IV?

Eldest surviving son of Philip III. by his first consort, Isabella, of Arragon. He was called “Le Bel,” or “The Fair,” from his great personal beauty.

What important affairs first employed this monarch?

Those of the three kingdoms of Arragon, Castile, and Sicily: but Philip wanted abilities to perform the great deeds he meditated; and as he found his treasury in a state of depression, he gladly entered into terms of accommodation. He adjusted the dispute with the Castilians, by withdrawing the claims of the Infant de la Cerda. Through the mediation of Edward I. of England, he made peace with Alphonso of Arragon, son of Peter; and in Sicily the release of Charles the Lamé, son of Charles of Anjou, was effected, by a ransom paid by the English monarch.

How came Philip, after having incurred these obligations, to enter on a war with England?

A private dispute between an English and Nor-



man sailor, off the coast of Bayonne, where each had been sent for water for their ship's crew, was the commencement of hostilities. Both sovereigns took part in the matter ; and Philip summoned Edward I. of England, as his vassal, to appear and answer for his conduct before the French court, assembled at Paris. Edward refused to appear himself ; but sent his brother, the Earl of Lancaster, as his deputy. He was prevailed on, as a matter of form, (notifying Edward's submission,) to deliver Guienne into the hands of the French monarch. When Philip had once obtained possession, he thought not of restitution.

How did Edward act on this occasion ?

He immediately threw off his allegiance to Philip, and being joined by the Earl of Flanders, commenced hostilities. Through the mediation of Pope Boniface VIII. a truce was however concluded between the two Kings : it was cemented by a double marriage. Edward I. received Philip's sister, Margaret, as his consort ; and his son, Prince Edward, was betrothed to Philip's daughter, Isabella, with Guienne for her portion, to be held tributary to France.

Did not Philip turn his arms against Flanders ?

Yes. His wars in that country lasted many years. The command was at first given to Charles of Valois, brother of Philip ; but he soon resigned his commission, disgusted with the King's shameful breach of faith. Under promise of a safe return, Guy, Earl of Flanders, went to Paris to negotiate with Philip ; but no sooner was he in the monarch's power than he imprisoned him and his sons.

How did the wars in Flanders terminate ?



After various engagements, in which the two parties were alternately conquerors and conquered, particularly the Flemings at Coutrai, and the French at Monts en Puelle, Guy, Earl of Flanders, and his son Robert, were put in possession of the duchy.

With what other enemy had Philip to contend?

With Boniface VIII. whom he had incensed by forbidding the clergy to send money abroad. Boniface, a haughty, arrogant, and overbearing Prince, immediately dispatched a priest, named Saisette, (who had previously become obnoxious to Philip,) as his Legate into France, with threats of interdict and excommunication, unless the monarch submitted himself in all things to the church. Philip, still further incensed, caused the Legate to be detained, threw the Pope's bull into the flames, and commenced open hostilities.

How did this contest end?

Philip, leaguings with the Roman family of Colonna, sent a body of troops to bring the Pope before his tribunal, at Lyons. He was seized at Anagnia, and most roughly used by the Colonnas; the Vatican was stripped of its treasures, and it was with great difficulty that the Pope was rescued by the populace. Boniface died almost immediately after his return to Rome, of a fever, brought on by the anxiety he had sustained.

How has Philip fixed a lasting stigma on his name?

By his inhuman persecution and murder of the Knights Templars, whose riches appear to have been their only failing. This religious order, which had been established at Jerusalem, in the time of the cru-

sades, was now accused of being concerned in a tumult which arose in Paris, in consequence of the severity of the taxes, and the debasing the current coin of the realm by Philip.

Were the Templars then, as they had formerly been, a military and religious order ?

They adhered to their vows ; but the mania for the crusades was over, and chivalry was on the wane. These Knights were all of good family, and possessed of affluence. They engaged themselves in the several amusements of the times. Philip aimed at the acquisition of their wealth ; and on a most frivolous pretext, they were seized, thrown into dungeons, put to the torture, false confessions were drawn from them, and many of them burnt alive : amongst these was their Grand Master, de Molai, who with many others, died protesting their innocence. In these barbarous acts Clement V. concurred ; and the order of Knights Templars was abolished by him at Vienne in France. Nominally all their possessions were given to the Knights Hospitallers : but in reality they were shared by the King and the Pope.

Was the nation convinced of the innocence of this persecuted people ?

Yes. And their tragic end was bewailed with general lamentation. It is said that De Molai, with his last breath, cited the Pope within forty days, and the King within a year and a day, to answer before a heavenly tribunal, for their deeds of violence ; and as both these tyrants died within the given period, the superstition of the times looked on this circumstance, as a further corroboration of the Templars' innocence.

What is the last act recorded of Philip ?

On his return from Vienne, he conferred the honour of knighthood on his three sons, and Paris was made the scene of festivity and rejoicing. The Flemings again revolted. His people bitterly complained of his oppressions, and various troubles arose in his own family.

Of what did Philip die ?

Anxiety, and various painful retrospections, undermined the constitution of Philip. He languished in a state of weakness for a year, and then expired at Fontainbleau. He was buried at St. Denis.

Whom did he marry ?

Joanna of Navarre.

Name his children.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| 1. Louis.                                      | } All successively Kings of France<br>and Navarre. |
| 2. Philip.                                     |  |
| 3. Charles.                                    |  |
| 4. Isabella, married to Edward II. of England. |  |
| Two daughters died young.                      |  |

#### CHARACTER.

Philip was prodigal and ambitious, sacrificing the good of his subjects to his own rapacious passions. Cruel, vindictive, persecuting with ferocious tyranny all to whom he was opposed. He was besides, avaricious, and a violator of his word. As a husband and father, Philip was an amiable character : he also patronized the sciences, and showed great firmness in resisting the innovations of Boniface VIII.

## REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1285. Philip institutes the supreme tribunals called Parliaments.

1293. Philip enacts sumptuary laws, regulating the domestic expenditure of individuals.

1299. Spectacles invented at Pisa.

1303. The Commons admitted into the National Assembly.

1307. Clement V. removes the papal throne from Rome to Avignon, where it remains seventy years.

1308. The Cantons of Uri, Schwitz, and Unterwald, throw off the Austrian yoke, and thus lay the foundation of the Swiss republic.

## CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Edward I. Edward II.

*Spain.*—*Castile.*—Sancho IV. Ferdinand IV. Alphonso V. and XI. of Leon. *Arragon.*—Alphonso III. James II. *Navarre.*—Joanna I., married to Philip IV. of France.

*The Empire.*—Rodolph of Hapsburgh. Adolphus of Nassau. Albert of Austria. Henry VII.

*The Papacy.*—Honorius IV. Nicholas IV. Celestine V. Boniface VIII. Benedict XI. Clement V.

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 LOUIS X. LE HUTIN.

WHEN did he ascend the throne?

In 1314; died 1316, aged twenty-five, having reigned eighteen months.

Who was Louis X?

Eldest son of Philip IV. and Joanna of Navarre.

Whence did he derive his name?

The word "Hutin" signifies quarrelsome, wrangling; but the character of Louis was so weak and irresolute, that historians are at a loss to account for the appellation.

What are the chief events of this reign?

The murder of Margaret of Burgundy, the Queen consort, who for her abandoned conduct had been confined in the château Gaillard during two years. Louis, desiring to form a second marriage, caused her to be strangled. Secondly, the execution of Enguerrand de Marigny, by Charles of Valois. He was accused of having embezzled the public property in the last reign, and was sentenced to death, without the liberty of speaking in his own vindication. Thirdly, a disastrous action against the Flemings at Courtrai: the King was obliged to raise the siege; his troops being driven to the last extremity, from the dreadful state of the weather, and the scarcity of provisions. Louis recalled the Jews into France who had been expelled in the reign of Philip IV.: he also compelled the vassals of the crown to purchase their freedom.

What occasioned the death of Louis?

It is said, that having over-heated himself whilst playing at Tennis in the Bois de Vincennes, he retired to a damp grotto, the cold air of which chilled his blood. He died at Vincennes, and was buried at St. Denis.

Name his consorts.

1. Margaret of Burgundy; divorced. 2. Clementia of Hungary.



Mention his children.

1. Jane, Queen of Navarre; married to the Count d'Evreux.

2. John, a posthumous son, who only lived eight days.

He is styled John I. in all ancient records.

#### CHARACTER.

Louis was generous in disposition, but he wanted firmness of character. His intentions were good, but he wanted resolution to carry them into effect. He repealed many of the oppressive taxes levied by his predecessor.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1315. Louis passes a law to prohibit the interruption of the farmer in his agricultural pursuits, by seizing his goods, cattle, or implements of husbandry.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Edward II.

*Spain.*—*Castile.*—Alphonso V. and XI. of Leon.

*Arragon.*—James II. *Navarre.*—Louis le Hutin, King of France and Navarre.

*The Empire.*—Louis of Bavaria, and Frederic of Austria.

*The Papacy.*—Clement V.

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#### PHILIP V. LE LONG.

WHEN did he ascend the throne?

In 1316; died in 1322, in the thirtieth year of his age, and the seventh of his reign.



Who was Philip V ?

The second son of Philip IV. by Joanna of Navarre. His brother, Louis X., dying without a male heir, Philip succeeded in consequence of the Salique law. He was called "Le Long," from his great height. Philip had, however, acted as Regent till the birth, and also till the death of the posthumous son of his late brother, under the promise, that if the Queen gave birth to a son, he should be Regent for eighteen years ; if to a daughter, he was immediately to be made King.

Were the people unanimous in receiving Philip as their sovereign ?

No : the Duke of Burgundy, and even Charles, brother of Philip, opposed him, and would have placed on the throne, Joanna of Navarre, daughter of Louis X., though the Salique law effectually destroyed her claim. Philip was, however, crowned at Rheims ; and a Parliament assembled at Paris once more decreed, that " no female should succeed to the throne of France."

In what foreign war did Philip engage ?

In a war with the Flemings, in which little was effected. A mania for the crusades, similar to that in the time of Louis IX., again disturbed the kingdom, under the same title of " the shepherds," and the pretext of a voyage to the Holy Land. These crusaders ravaged and pillaged the country wherever they came. They were particularly tyrannical and oppressive to the Jews. Louis X. is said to have left a sum of money in support of a crusade, and the reigning monarch, with his consort, Jane of Burgundy, had actually taken the cross, and were only dissuaded from en-

tering on the expedition, by the earnest entreaties and remonstrances of Pope John XXI.

Of what were the Jews accused in this reign ?

A pestilential disorder breaking out in France, the Jews were accused of poisoning the waters ; in consequence of which many were burned, others confined, and the rest owed their safety to the humanity of Queen Jane. Historians agree, that there is some degree of truth attached to this accusation of the Jews ; that the King of Grenada, fearing the enthusiasm for the crusades should extend into Spain, suborned the Jews, as the natural enemies of the Christians, to poison the wells ; but, that the Jews not daring to execute the commission, gave it in charge to those afflicted with leprosy, who being compelled to live apart from the rest of the community undertook the office, under the idea, that whoever drank of the waters would become leprous like themselves, and that thus their exclusion from society must necessarily end.

Where did Philip die ?

At Longchamp, after an illness of six months. He was buried at St. Denis.

Whom did he marry ?

Jane of Burgundy.

Name his children.

1. Jane, married Eudes, Count of Burgundy.
2. Margaret, married Louis, Count of Flanders.
3. Isabella, married the Dauphin of Vienne.
4. Blanche, a nun.

#### CHARACTER.

Philip was devout, without weakness ; a religious

observer of his word, prudent and vigilant. He patronised literature, and bestowed employment and distinction on men of talent.

## REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1316. The first enforcement of the Salique law took place on the accession of Philip.

1317. A general massacre of the Jews at Verdun. They are banished France.

## CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Edward II.

*Spain.*—*Castile.*—Alphonso V. and XI. of Leon.  
*Arragon.*—James II. *Navarre.*—Philip le Long, King of France and Navarre.

*The Empire.*—Louis V. of Bavaria, and Frederic of Austria.

*The Papacy.*—John XXI.

## CHARLES IV. LE BEL.

WHEN did he ascend the throne?

In 1322; died 1328, in the thirty-third year of his age, and the seventh of his reign.

Who was Charles IV?

The third son of Philip IV. and Joanna of Navarre. He succeeded to the throne of his brother without opposition, and was crowned at Rheims.

What was the first act of this Prince?

To divorce his Queen, Blanche of Burgundy, and to unite himself to Mary, daughter of the Emperor Henry VII., and sister to the Duke of Bohemia. This short reign, like the preceding, is barren of in-

cident, if we except the expedition of Queen Isabella of England into France.

Who was Isabella?

Eldest daughter of Philip IV., sister of Charles IV., the reigning monarch of France, and consort of Edward II. of England. Charles had revived his claim of exacting homage for Guienne; and Isabella, with her son, the Prince of Wales, repaired to Paris, to accommodate matters between the parties. This, however, was but a plea to forward her own base designs. Provoked by her consort's attachment to the Spencers, Isabella, aided by her confidant, Mortimer, collected about her those English who had retired from their own country in disgust, and planned the overthrow and death of her husband. Whether Charles secretly favoured his sister's schemes is uncertain, but he refused to do it openly.

Of what did Charles die?

A severe illness assailed him at Vincennes, of which he died in a few days. He was buried at St. Denis.

Charles IV. was the last lineal descendant of the House of Capet direct, which had governed France nearly three hundred and fifty years. As Charles died without leaving a son, and as the child born after his decease was a daughter, the house of Valois was the next branch of the Capetines; and Philip de Valois, cousin to Charles, succeeded to the throne.

Name the consorts of Charles V.

1. Blanche of Burgundy.    2. Mary of Germany.
3. Jane d'Evreux.

What children had Charles?

One daughter, Blanche, married to Philip, Duke

of Orleans, and three other children, who died in infancy?

## CHARACTER.

Charles was neither distinguished for virtues, nor disgraced by vices. He administered justice with impartiality; and when he was not prompted by avarice, (which may be called his leading foible,) avoided acts of oppression and tyranny.

## REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1325. John XXI. endeavours ineffectually to place the imperial diadem on the head of Charles IV. after having deposed the Emperor Louis V.

Death of Charles of Valois, who was son of Philip III., brother of Philip IV., uncle to Louis X., and father to Philip VI.

## CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Edward II.

*Spain.*—*Castile.*—Alphonso V. and XI. of Leon.

*Arragon.*—James II. Alphonso IV. *Navarre.*—Charles le Bel, King of France and Navarre.

*The Empire.*—Louis V. of Bavaria.

*The Papacy.*—John XXI.

## Second Branch of the Capetines.

FIRST HOUSE OF VALOIS.—SEVEN KINGS.

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### PHILIP VI. DE VALOIS, LE BIEN FORTUNE.

WHEN did he ascend the throne ?

In 1328 ; died 1350, in the fifty-seventh year of his age, and the twenty-third of his reign.

Who was Philip VI ?

Son of Charles of Valois, grandson of Philip III., and cousin to Charles IV., his predecessor. He was only Regent of France till the birth of the Queen Dowager's child ; which proving a daughter, Philip ascended the throne.

Had Philip no competitor ?

Yes ; Edward III. of England asserted his claim, in right of his mother Isabella ; and the Count d'Evreux, who had married the daughter of Louis X., also entertained pretensions to the throne ; but the kingdom of Navarre being ceded to the latter, he withdrew his claims.

What is recorded of the court of Philip ?

That it exceeded in splendour and magnificence, any regal state hitherto known ; that even kings took up their abode in Paris, in preference to the independent quiet of their own less brilliant courts.

Why did this monarch enter on a war with the Flemings ?

To place Louis, Count of Flanders, on the throne



of that duchy. Here Philip took the town of Cassel, which he razed to the ground. Thirteen thousand Flemings are computed to have fallen in battle, and ten thousand more perished on the scaffold.

Were not the Flemings afterwards seconded by Edward III?

Yes. The two monarchs of France and England were mutually jealous of each other. Philip favoured the Scotch, at that time warring against Edward; and Edward, on his part, seconded the rebellion in Flanders. Aided by the suggestions of Arteveld, a brewer and citizen of Ghent, he boldly styled himself King of France, and both nations now prepared for open hostilities.

Which side was successful?

Philip, assisted by the Genoese, burned and pillaged the town of Southampton; whilst Edward pursued the French fleet to the Dutch town of Sluys; and after a severe contest, the French were routed with great slaughter, and every ship destroyed. A truce of three years succeeded.

How did Philip provoke fresh hostilities?

He proclaimed a tournament, to which the nobles of Bretagne (the vassals of England) were invited. Without even the form of trial, or of accusation, Philip had them seized and executed. Edward considering this an infraction of the truce, once more took up arms.

What memorable battle ensued?

That of Crecy, so fatal to the arms of France; so glorious to those of England. Edward had entered France on the side of Normandy, by Cape de la Hogue; had followed the course of the Seine up to

Paris, burning all the towns in his way. Pursued by Philip, Edward retreated northward, and at the village of Crecy, about nine miles from Abbeville, he fixed his camp.

What is the computed number of the forces on each side?

The French amounted to one hundred and twenty thousand men; the English to a third of that number. The English gained a most signal victory. The defeat of their adversaries must be attributed to the want of discipline in the French army, and their contempt of the very inferior numbers of their opponents. Four crowned heads were present at this engagement, and eleven Princes fell in the action. The glory of the victory was justly given to the Black Prince, eldest son of Edward III., who was foremost in every danger, and by his heroic example rendered his troops invincible. Nor was Philip deficient in bravery: he had two horses killed under him; and even when all chance of victory was gone, it was only by force that he was taken from the field of battle.

What event succeeded this defeat at Crecy?

The siege of Calais by the English monarch. The town nobly held out for a twelvemonth, and was at last reduced by famine. Edward cruelly demanded six of the most illustrious citizens to be delivered into his hands; and they would have fallen victims to his wrath, but for the intercession of his Queen, Philippa. After this event, a truce was concluded, through the intervention of the Pope.

What calamity still further obscured the closing years of this reign?

A dreadful pestilence, which devastated not only France and England, but all Europe, and had before ravaged Asia and Africa. In France it is said, that the provincial towns were so much depopulated, that not a sufficient number escaped to bury the dead : in Paris there were daily five hundred bodies carried for interment from the *Hotel Dieu*. The superstition of the times attributed this calamity to the Jews ; many hundreds of whom were massacred or burned.

Where did Philip die ?

At Nogent le Roi, in the Isle of France. He was buried at St. Denis.

Name the consorts of Philip.

1. Jane of Burgundy. 2. Blanche of Navarre.

Mention his issue.

1. John, Duke of Normandy, who succeeded him, the first Dauphin.

2. Philip, Duke of Orleans and Valois.

3. Mary, married John, Duke of Luxembourg.

4. A posthumous daughter, Jane.

#### CHARACTER.

Philip obtained the name of "The Fortunate," from his unexpected accession to the throne ; an appellation which ill accords with the troubles of his reign. He was possessed of personal courage and greatness of mind, which rose superior to misfortunes. He was, however, stern and inflexible. The nobles of Brittany, and the people of Flanders, suffered from his pride and revenge.

## REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1330. Gunpowder invented by a monk of Cologne.

1336. Edward III. of England quarters the fleur de lys of France with the arms of England, which continued to be thus used, till the reign of George III.

1346. Artillery first used in action at Crecy; the invention said to have been known to the French six years before.

1347. A violent insurrection in Rome, in which Rienzi, a private citizen, aiming at restoring ancient liberty, is slain by the nobles.

1349. Philip purchases the province of Dauphiné of Count Humbert II., on condition that the eldest son of the Kings of France, shall for ever bear the title of Dauphin.

## CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Edward III.

*Spain.*—*Castile.*—Alphonso V. and XI. of Leon.  
*Aragon.*—Alphonso IV. Peter IV. *Navarre.*—Joanna II.

*The Empire.*—Louis V. of Bavaria. Charles IV.

*The Papacy.*—John XXI. Benedict XII. Clement VI.

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 JOHN LE BON.

WHEN did he ascend the throne?

In 1350; died 1364, aged fifty-four, having reigned fourteen years.

Of whom was John the son?

Of Philip VI. and Jane of Burgundy ; he had already distinguished himself in military deeds during his father's life-time ; but it required the deep and profound judgment of a politician, to preside over a nation disordered as France now was, and kept in awe by so powerful an opponent as Edward III.

What were the first acts of John ?

Though in the main he may be considered an amiable and honourable Prince, John began his reign with two acts of grievous tyranny and oppression. At the instigation of Charles de la Cerda, he beheaded the Count de Guisnes, on a bare suspicion that he held an intercourse with England. John also adulterated the coin, and levied taxes in an arbitrary and unprecedented manner.

Who was Charles the Bad, King of Navarre ?

Son of Philip, Count d'Evreux, and Joanna, Queen of Navarre, daughter of Louis X. He had murdered the constable of the realm, Louis of Spain, the great favourite of John ; but for this he had obtained pardon. France being torn with civil commotions, on account of the late impositions, the King of Navarre, the Count d'Harcourt, and others, fomented these disturbances. John seized the King of Navarre, and imprisoned him ; he caused four of his attendants to be beheaded on the spot, notwithstanding the remonstrances of his son, the Dauphin, whose guests they were, and who urged in their behalf, that such treatment would be a violation of the rights of hospitality.

What ensued ?

The King of Navarre, the family d'Harcourt,



and many other nobles, threw off their allegiance : the people also were highly incensed, when the attention of all ranks was turned from domestic to foreign transactions. Intelligence was brought, that the Black Prince, with a considerable force, was again in France, and had even proceeded as far as the province of Berri. In a moment the nation was in arms, anxious to retrieve the glory it had lost in the field of Crecy.

Where did the two armies meet ?

At Maupertius, a short distance from Poitiers, where the numbers in favour of France were still more disproportionate than they had been at Crecy. The Cardinal de Perigord, Legate for Innocent VI., made two ineffectual efforts to prevent an engagement. John would hear of no accommodation. The Black Prince, too, offered to restore all his conquests, and proposed a truce for seven years ; but this was rejected, and both parties drew up in order of battle.

What was the issue of the contest ?

Here, as at Crecy, the Black Prince gained immortal honour : the field at Poitiers is even said to have been better fought than the former. The number of prisoners was immense, more than doubling the amount of the whole English army. The French King was amongst the captives. The conflict lasted from dawn till noon.

To whom did the King surrender ?

When all was lost, John demanded an audience with the Black Prince ; but he having retired from the field, the unfortunate monarch was obliged to give his right glove to Philip de Morbec, a Knight of Arras, who had been banished France for



having slain his antagonist in a duel. John was soon after taken before his noble conqueror, who received him with every mark of respect and honour. The crown of France, which Edward had disputed with John whilst in prosperity, he readily ceded to him as a captive.

Who then governed France?

Charles the Dauphin, who had escaped from Poitiers. He was at that time unpopular in France, which was a prey to the most dreadful dissensions, that ever menaced the ruin of any country.

What acts are recorded of Charles when Dauphin?

That he assembled the States General to take measures for the King's emancipation; but they, instead of entering into the wishes of the Dauphin, were desirous for the liberation of the King of Navarre, and for an abridgement of the royal prerogative. Charles evaded these demands; a tumult ensued, headed by Marcel, Provost of Paris. He caused two of the Dauphin's Chamberlains to be slain in his presence, liberated the King of Navarre, and made Charles adopt the cap of liberty, the badge of the rebel party. Revolt spread from the capital to the provinces. Charles of Navarre, again free, harangued the people, opened the prison doors, raised an army, attempted the life of the Dauphin, and bloodshed followed his footsteps on all sides.

How did these events terminate?

The peasants rose up in rebellion against the nobles, whom they vowed to exterminate, for their tyrannical oppression. Armed with bludgeons, they ravaged and pillaged wherever they came. Up-

wards of two hundred country seats were reduced to ashes, and the inhabitants murdered. The appellation of Jacques was given to these rustic insurgents. Their devastations extended over all the north of France, as far as the capital. At length the nobles, headed by Captal de Buche, a Gascon Knight in the English service, flew to arms: seven thousand of the assailants were killed, and their chief place of rendezvous, Meaux, was burned to the ground.

Where was King John during these events?

After the fatal day at Poitiers, he went with the Black Prince to Bordeaux, and from thence to England. The palace of the Savoy, in London, was appropriated to his use; and in all respects he was treated, not only with consideration, but with the most profound homage. John at length endeavoured to release himself by treaty, but the terms were so injurious to the nation, that the Dauphin refused to accept them, and Edward had again recourse to arms.

How was peace at last concluded?

Edward besieged Rheims during the winter; and in the spring, contemplated the destruction of the capital; but here he was repulsed by the Dauphin. Nothing daunted, Edward still seemed bent on the annihilation of the French nation, when his army was overtaken by one of the most violent storms recorded in the memory of man. The troops were severely injured, and many thousand horses perished. The English monarch looked on this awful phenomenon as a signal from Heaven, to suspend the horrors of war. He shortly after signed the treaty of Brittany.

What were the particulars of this treaty ?

Edward demanded three million gold crowns for John's ransom, to be paid by instalments : three of the King's younger sons were to be given as hostages, till the sum was paid. Edward, on his part, relinquished all further claims on the French crown, excepting only the late conquests of the Black Prince in the West.

Did John return to France ?

Yes : on the payment of the first sum, he was liberated, after four years' captivity, and was received with every testimony of love and regard by his subjects, who celebrated his entry into Paris with the splendour of a triumph, though it was with great difficulty they could raise the money for his ransom.

Where did John die ?

A prisoner in the Savoy. One of the hostages, (the Duke of Anjou, second son of John,) broke his parole, and escaped to France. The King, mortified at so base an infringement of the treaty, once more returned to London, resumed his palace and his prison, and there died four months after.

Whom did he marry ?

1. Bona, daughter of John III., King of Bohemia, who fell at Crecy. 2. Jane, widow of the Duke of Burgundy.

What children had John ?

By Bona he had eight children, viz.

1. Charles, who succeeded him.
2. Louis, Duke of Anjou.
3. John, Duke of Berri.
4. Philip, Duke of Burgundy.

5. Joanna, married to Charles the Bad, King of Navarre.

6. Mary, Duchess of Bar.

7. Isabella, married to John Visconti, first Duke of Milan.

8. Margaret, a nun.

Where was John buried ?

He was first interred with regal honours in England by Edward III., afterwards his remains were removed to St. Denis.

#### CHARACTER.

In the early part of his reign, John manifested a violent and vindictive spirit, of which we find no traces in his after life : reflection and adversity produced the virtues of meekness and humanity. Generous, candid, brave, his honour and truth were unsullied, and his faith in promise was inviolable. He died beloved by his subjects, esteemed and respected by his enemies.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1355. The States General levy a tax on every sale that takes place in the kingdom. They enact, that the States assemble again at the expiration of a year, to vote new taxes.

1356. Two Kings prisoners at the same time, in the English court ; John, King of France, and David Bruce, King of Scotland.

1361. John bestows the duchy of Burgundy on his fourth, and favourite son, Philip. With his predecessor ends the Capetian race in Burgundy.

1364. The celebrated Du Guesclin takes the town

of Mantes from the King of Navarre, the very day on which John expires.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Edward III.

*Spain.*—*Castile.*—Peter I. the Cruel. *Arragon.*—Peter IV. *Navarre.*—Charles II. the Bad.

*The Empire.*—Charles IV.

*The Papacy.*—Clement VI. Innocent VI. Urban V.

#### CHARLES V. LE SAGE.

WHEN did he ascend the throne?

In 1364; died 1380, aged forty-four, having reigned sixteen years.

Who was Charles V?

The eldest son of John and Bona of Bohemia. He had disgraced himself at the battle of Poitiers, and his administration, during his father's imprisonment, had not been popular; still, this circumstance is to be attributed more to the divided state of the country, than to want of ability in Charles.

With what enemy had he to contend?

With Charles the Bad, King of Navarre; to oppose whom he made Bertrand du Guesclin commander-in-chief of his army. Du Guesclin had distinguished himself in the wars of Brittany, and Charles the Bad committed the conduct of his forces to John de Grailli, Captal, de Buche, a celebrated Gascon Knight. De Buche was taken prisoner by du Guesclin; and Charles of Navarre was obliged, after his defeat at Costerel in Normandy, to renounce all pretensions



to Burgundy, which had been the subject of dispute.

Against whom did Charles then employ the military talents of Du Guesclin?

Against Peter the Cruel, King of Castile, whose crimes had rendered him odious to his subjects. The Castilians had invited over Henry of Trastamarre, to accept the crown. Edward of England advocated the cause of the reigning monarch.

What was the issue of this contest?

Du Guesclin, with the cognizance of his sovereign, enlisted into his service that band of mercenary soldiers, who lent their support on hire to the most advantageous bidder. Prompted by the plunder of Avignon, which lay in their way, they readily accepted the offer of Du Guesclin, and drove Peter the Cruel from the throne: but the Black Prince, shortly after, encountered Du Guesclin, and took him prisoner at Najara, on the banks of the Ebro. Peter was again placed on the throne of Castile by the Black Prince, who returned with glory to Guienne,

Did Peter then continue in quiet possession of his throne?

No: for this treacherous Prince refused the payment he had promised to the English forces, who consequently resigned him to his fate, disgusted with his base ingratitude. Left to himself, Peter resumed his accustomed deeds of violence and tyranny; the Castilians again flew to arms: with the aid of Du Guesclin, they replaced Henry of Trastamarre on the throne, who having slain Peter, remained for life, the quiet possessor of the crown of Castile.



Did not Charles enter on a war with England ?

Yes. The Black Prince, from an infirm state of health, had become irritable and vindictive. His Gascon subjects, ever jealous of their Prince's partiality for the English, were loud in their expressions of discontent, at the tax of hearth-money, which he had imposed on them, to furnish supplies for the expedition into Spain. They appealed to Charles for redress, who summoned the Black Prince to answer to these accusations at Paris. The English Prince refused to appear, but at the head of a powerful army. Both sides prepared for action, but as soon as the English had reached Limoges, the Black Prince was, from increasing malady, obliged to retire to England, where he soon after died. Edward did not long survive the loss of his valiant son, and the glory of England was for a while overcast.

Who headed the English troops on the death of the Black Prince ?

His brother, John of Gaunt, who effected little for England. In a very short interval of time, Bayonne, Bordeaux, and Calais were all that remained of her victories in France, except the empty title of King of that country, which Edward, and all subsequent monarchs of England bore, till the time of George III.

What is the last act recorded of Charles ?

His ineffectual attempt to unite the duchy of Brittany to the crown of France. The English, aiding the cause of De Montfort, the lately acknowledged Duke, were preparing to invade France, when tidings arrived that Charles was attacked by a severe and dangerous illness.

To what cause was this malady attributed ?

This King had been poisoned, when young, by Charles the Bad, his insidious enemy: a powerful antidote retarded his dissolution; but left him with a shattered constitution and enfeebled strength. Charles IV. Emperor of Germany, sent over his own physician, at the time when Charles was first suspected to have been poisoned, who made an incision in his arm, but giving it as his opinion, that whenever the wound closed, the King's death would be inevitable. When the fatal symptom appeared, the King immediately prepared to meet his end. He sent for the Dukes of Brittany, Burgundy, and Bourbon; advised the immediate coronation of his son, his union with the Princess of Germany, and the termination of the war with Brittany. Charles expired at the Chauteau de Beauté en Marne. He was interred at St. Denis.

Whom did he marry ?

Jane of Bourbon.

Name his children.

1. Charles, who succeeded him.
2. Louis, Duke of Orleans.
3. Catherine, married to John of Berri, Count of Montpensier.

#### CHARACTER.

Charles was a Prince of learning, and a patron of learned men; a friend of the arts, and a promoter of many useful regulations of internal policy. He is said to have been deficient in courage, to which cause his resolution of never heading his armies has been attributed. At Poitiers he acted with coward-

ice; and it is probable, that the odium he there incurred prevented him from placing himself in a situation in which his military prowess could ever again be called in question. This failing may chiefly be attributed to the deleterious effects of the poison, administered to him when Dauphin.

## REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1365. The Universities of Vienna and Geneva founded.

1367. Du Guesclin, taken prisoner by the Black Prince, is confined at Bordeaux, where the Princess of Wales and Lord Chandos obtain an interview with him, and offer to contribute the necessary sum, for the purchase of his ransom.

1369. Foundation of the Bastile, as a state-prison, in Paris.

1377. Rome again becomes the seat of papal power.

1378. Greenland discovered by a Venetian. The King's Library founded by Charles V.; it contained nine hundred volumes, then considered an immense collection.

## CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England*.—Edward III. Richard II.

*Spain*.—*Castile*.—Peter I. the Cruel. Henry II. John I. *Arragon*.—Peter IV. *Navarre*.—Charles II. the Bad.

*The Empire*.—Charles IV. Wincellaus.

*The Papacy*.—Urban V. Gregory XI. Urban VI.

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## CHARLES VI. L'IMBECILLE ET LE BIEN AIMÉ.

WHEN did he ascend the throne ?

In 1380 ; died 1422, aged fifty-five, having been nominal King forty-two years ; though thirty of that period, were passed in a state of mental derangement.

Who was Charles VI ?

The eldest son of Charles V. and Jane of Bourbon. As he was only twelve years of age, the late King had appointed his brother, the Duke of Anjou, Regent, and the Dukes of Berri, Burgundy, and Bourbon, Guardians of the young King's person.

What was the administration of the Duke of Anjou ?

Most violent and rapacious. He began by pillaging the royal treasure, which was concealed at Melun. He and his brother, the Duke de Berri, were equally destitute of virtue, honour, and humanity. The Duke of Burgundy, the favourite son of John, was brave and liberal. His insinuating manners and princely spirit engaged the affections of all ; and excepting the Duke de Bourbon, the maternal uncle of the young King, he was the most accomplished noble in Europe. Between these four Princes of the blood arose mutual disagreements.

What was the first cause of contest in this reign ?

The Duke of Anjou had entirely drained the treasury, and the soldiers were compelled to plunder the country for support. Violent commotions ensued. Old taxes were repealed ; but as the government could not proceed without funds, new ones were imposed. Whilst the kingdom was in this distracted

state, the Duke of Anjou, with all his unjustly acquired wealth, left France for Naples, to the throne of which kingdom he had been called by his cousin, Queen Joanna, (a descendant of Charles of Anjou.) Charles Durazzo had usurped the government of Naples.

What became of the Duke of Anjou?

His army was dispersed, his riches were plundered, and himself reduced to the greatest extremity. Grief brought on a fever, of which he shortly after expired.

Why did France enter on a war with Flanders?

To support the claims of Philip, Duke of Burgundy, who having married the daughter of the last Count, was now become heir to that wealthy province. The Flemings, who were ever at war with their rulers, resisted these pretensions; and the French, with their young monarch, who on attaining his majority, (fourteen,) had just been crowned at Rheims, met the army of Flemish citizens, headed by Artaveld, of Ghent, at Rosebec, near Courtrai, where the Flemings were defeated, with an immense slaughter. Artaveld was son of the celebrated brewer of Ghent, the ally of Edward III.

Did this defeat terminate the war?

No. It continued two years longer, till the Duke of Burgundy guaranteed all their privileges to the Flemings. It was in this posture of affairs that Charles threw off the tutelage of his uncles, united himself in marriage with a Princess of Germany, and prepared for the invasion of England, placing at the head of the troops the brave and experienced veteran DeClisson, who had been the friend of the celebrated Du Guesclin.



Did Charles effect a descent on England ?

No. The first attempt failed, through the private quarrels of the Dukes of Berri and Burgundy. The time that should have been employed in active service was lost, the rainy season set in, and the greater part of the vessels were lost at Sluys. On a second attempt, the leader, De Clisson, was treacherously made prisoner by his insidious enemy, the Duke of Brittany, and thus the affair was given up.

What became of De Clisson ?

He was wounded and left for dead in the streets of Paris, as he returned from a ball given by the Queen. Peter de Craon, the perpetrator of this infamous deed, thinking his victim slain, fled for protection to the court of Brittany, whilst the King, enraged at the whole proceeding, determined to pursue the traitor, and force the Duke of Bretagne to give him up.

What malady assailed the King at this time ?

He ordered his troops to assemble at Mons, on their march into Brittany. As he was passing through the adjacent forest, a maniac rushed out, seized his horse's bridle, and exclaiming " You are going where you are betrayed," immediately vanished. Charles, whose mind was deeply imbued with the superstition of the times, imagined he had seen a spectre. His reason suddenly gave way, he was bound, secured, and conveyed to Paris, where he remained a maniac for some months ; but at length reason resumed her sway for a short interval.

Did Charles then resume the regal power ?

No. For his mental re-establishment was not completed, ere an occurrence, in the following year,



banished every hope which had been formed for his convalescence. The court of Charles, since his marriage with Isabella, of Bavaria, was become the most corrupt and licentious in Europe. At a masquerade, given by the Queen, the King and several young nobles in his train, appeared habited as savages, covered over with tar and pitch, to which flax was made to adhere. The Duke of Orleans, in order to ascertain who these savages really were, advanced a torch too near one of the party, whose garment immediately taking fire, (as they were all chained together,) it communicated to the rest; and though the King was not seriously injured, the fright brought on a relapse, and, with very few lucid intervals, Charles remained a wretched maniac for life.

What occasioned the dispute between the Dukes of Orleans and Burgundy?

They were the heads of two political parties, each desirous of having absolute power.

Who governed during the time of Charles's imbecility?

The Dukes of Berri, Burgundy, and Orleans. Between the two latter Princes and their consorts mutual jealousies and mistrusts arose. About this time Philip, Duke of Burgundy, died, and was succeeded by his son John, the Fearless, who carried on hostilities with his cousin, with still greater violence than had subsisted between the uncle and nephew. Under the title of Armagnacs and Burgundians, the partizans of each alternately gained possession of the King's person. The voice of popular feeling was in favour of the Burgundians, till the Duke of

Orleans was murdered in the streets of Paris, by command of his cousin of Burgundy.

Was not the murderer brought to trial?

Yes. He was summoned to answer for his crime before the High Court of Judicature, in Paris; but instead of appearing as a criminal, he arrived at the head of a large army, and the venal court thought proper to acquit him.

Did England again renew hostilities with France?

During the reign of Henry IV. England had been too much involved in domestic feuds, to think of foreign wars; but on the accession of Henry V. the old claim on France was renewed, and war was immediately declared against that country. Henry landed at Harfleur, which place he took after six weeks' siege. The two armies after this encountered each other at Agincourt: here the Dukes of Bourbon and Orleans were made prisoners. Six Princes of the blood, and eight thousand gentlemen were slain on the field, and the English again triumphed, as they had done under the Black Prince.

Did Henry follow up his victory?

Yes. He conquered Normandy, and was advancing to Paris, where the contending factions were about to unite their interests against their common enemy; but the Duke of Burgundy being stabbed at the feet of the Dauphin; his son, to avenge his death, offered the crown of France to Henry of England, and promised to support his claim.

How was peace at last concluded?

A treaty was entered into at Troyes, in which it was agreed that Henry V. on marrying Catherine of

France, daughter of Charles VI. should be declared heir to the crown. The Dauphin meanwhile opposed by his unnatural mother, the guilty Isabella, retired into Anjou, and there endeavoured to collect an army in order to assert his own rights, whilst Henry was at once made Regent of the kingdom. The English monarch survived the treaty of Troyes a year and a half, his son, Henry VI., was acknowledged heir of the two crowns of France and England.

What occasioned the death of Charles ?

A violent fever, with which he was attacked, four weeks after the death of the English King. He expired at the Palace of St. Paul, in Paris, and was buried at St. Denis. No mourner followed the last remains of the unfortunate King to the grave ; and so dreadfully was the treasury exhausted, that movables from the palace were sold, to defray the funeral expenses.

Whom did Charles marry ?

Isabella of Bavaria, a Princess of an intriguing and licentious disposition.

Mention his issue.

Two sons, who died in infancy.

3. Louis

4. John

5. Charles

} Successively Dauphins.

6. Philip, who lived but one day.

7. Isabella, married to Richard II. of England.

8. Jane, Duchess of Brittany.

9. Mary, a nun.

10. Michelle, married to Philip, Duke of Burgundy.

11. Catherine, Queen of Henry V. of England.

## CHARACTER.

Charles possessed every advantage of person, and was skilful in all manly exercises. He was liberal and grateful, even to extremes. Little can be said of his character, for before reason had asserted her full empire over his mind, he fell a victim to that dreadful malady, which incapacitated him for every duty of life.

## REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1385. First theatrical representation in France.

1389. The King orders a pompous funeral ceremony to be performed over the remains of the late Constable, Du Guesclin, in which he presides as chief mourner. Du Guesclin died 1380, and had been already buried at St. Denis.

1391. Cards first made in France, by Jaquemin Gringonnem, for the amusement of the King; used in Italy, some years before that time.

## CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Richard II. Henry IV. Henry V.

*Spain.*—*Castile.* John I. Henry III. John II.

*Arragon.*—Peter IV. John I. Martin. Ferdinand I. Alphonso V. *Navarre.*—Charles II. the Bad. Charles III.

*The Empire.*—Winceslaus. Robert. Sigismund.

*The Papacy.*—Urban V. Boniface IX. Innocent VII. Gregory XII. Alexander V. John XXII. Martin V.

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## CHARLES VII. LE VICTORIEUX.

WHEN did he ascend the throne ?

In 1422 ; died 1461, aged fifty-nine, having reigned thirty-nine years.

Who was Charles VII ?

Eldest surviving son of Charles VI. and Isabella of Bavaria ; who, notwithstanding Henry of England had been declared heir to the throne, was crowned immediately on his father's decease, at Poitiers ; Rheims, the usual place of coronation, being then in possession of the English.

Had the English then withdrawn their claims ?

No. The infant Henry VI. was, by Isabella, the Queen Dowager of France, and the Burgundian party, proclaimed King at Paris. All the northern provinces were swayed by the Duke of Bedford, the English Regent ; under him the victory at Verneuil was effected, and circumstances appeared to threaten the total annihilation of the kingdom. The Duke was, shortly after this victory, obliged to return to England, to compose dissensions in the cabinet : and at the same time the Duke of Brittany resumed his allegiance under Charles.

What event led to the siege of Orleans ?

This city was situated between the provinces of the contending parties. Bedford, intending to pursue his conquests into the south, determined, as a first step, to make himself master of it. He had begun the siege, and reduced Charles to the last state of despair : the French monarch had even resolved to surrender to the Duke of Burgundy, and to retire into the province of Dauphiné : he was only pre-



vented from adopting this measure by the earnest entreaties of his Queen, Mary of Anjou. Charles, once roused, determined bravely to combat every inch of ground, and it was in this situation that the Maid of Orleans, the celebrated Joan of Arc, was first introduced to him.

Who was this Maid of Orleans?

She was the daughter of indigent, but reputable parents, who lived in a small village on the borders of Lorraine. As her employment was to take care of horses at a neighbouring inn, she had frequent opportunities of hearing discussions on the state of the country, and she appears to have been particularly interested in the cause of her countrymen, who were at that time suffering every hardship of war before Orleans. The fate of the youthful monarch also excited an enthusiastic feeling in her mind; and this sentiment, increased by constant thought, and aided by the general spirit of superstition which at that time prevailed, she soon construed into the inspiration of Heaven.

How did Joan first attract popular attention?

Fearless of the consequences she went to Vaucouleurs, an adjacent town, and there obtained admission to Baudricourt, the Governor, who dismissed her as a visionary. Six months elapsed, Joan again presented herself, and was again dismissed; but in a third interview, the Governor, either weary of her importunities, or inclining to a belief which was then current in France, "that the country could only be delivered by a woman, from the hands of the English," furnished her with a coat-of-mail, and with two gentlemen as her attendants, dispatched her to the



King, who at that time held his court at Chinon.

What were the three promises made by Joan?

1. That the English should be compelled to raise the siege of Orleans. 2. That she would deliver France from the hands of the English. 3. And that she would bring Charles to Rheims, to be crowned there.

What was her reception by the French monarch?

When Joan arrived at Chinon she met with little encouragement from Charles, who held a council, to determine how far it would be right to grant her an audience. At length she was admitted, and with the greatest self-possession opened her mission to the King, whom she readily distinguished from his attendants, though he had purposely laid aside every mark of distinction. Her artless, simple, and pious manner fixed the attention of Charles, who gave her an ample suit of armour, with every warlike appendage, and placed her at the head of one division of the army.

Did Joan perform all she had promised?

Yes. She immediately hastened to Orleans, where, though opposed by many of the old commanders, and twice wounded in action, she compelled the English to raise the siege, and advised the King, as far as possible, to continue the assault on all the neighbouring small towns, at that time possessed by the English. Under Joan's direction Charles acted, and having gained a considerable victory at Patay, he advanced towards Champagne.

What opposition did the English offer?

Seized with a general panic, they fled, and no

hostile forces were found to oppose the passage of the rivers, or to defend the towns, the roads towards which had so lately been lined with English troops. Troyes and Chalons surrendered. Charles entered Rheims in triumph, and was there crowned, the Maid of Orleans assisting at the ceremony. Having thus completed her mission, Joan begged leave to retire to the station of life which she had quitted ; but yielding to the earnest entreaties of the King, she at last consented to continue in his service for a time.

Were these important benefits ever recompensed ?

Charles bestowed on her family the name of "De Lys," and ennobled all her relations and descendants, male and female. He exempted her native village of Dom Remi from taxation for ever. But for herself, being taken at Compeigne by a Burgundian captain, and sold to the English, the King made not the slightest effort to obtain her liberty. He enjoyed the fruit of her labours, whilst he forgot the hand which had opened the path to victory.

What was the end of the Maid of Orleans ?

This heroic girl, at the age of seventeen, (or, according to Hume, twenty-seven,) was, by order of the Duke of Bedford, burnt as a sorceress, in the market-place at Rouen. The war with the English continued four years after her death, during which time the tide of victory flowed on the side of the French. The Duke of Burgundy (Philip the Good) quarrelled with the Duke of Bedford, and returned to his allegiance, under Charles. The Queen Mother died, and the King entered Paris in triumph, after an absence of twenty years.

To what noblemen was Charles indebted for his throne?

To the Constable de Richemont, and the Count de Dunois.

What did Charles on again assuming regal power?

He devoted himself to repairing the ravages of war, and cultivating the arts of peace. He levied a regular army, and supported it by an annual tax; and by this means he added a force and vigour to the royal authority which it had never known before.

Was there then peace with England?

No. The truce which had been formed for four years was expired; but England was then too much distracted with her own civil commotions of York and Lancaster, to defend her foreign possessions. Rouen, Guienne, and Bordeaux fell, successively into the hands of the French; and of all the mighty conquests of England, Calais alone remained to her.

Did Charles, after these conquests, enjoy his crown in peace?

No. The unnatural conduct of his son, the Dauphin, afterwards Louis XI., kept him in a state of continual anxiety and apprehension, and at last brought him to a premature end. Charles hearing that the Dauphin, who had fled to the court of Burgundy, had formed a conspiracy to poison him, refrained from all sustenance for seven days, and then expired from exhaustion. He died at the Château of Melun, and was buried at St. Denis.

Name the consort of Charles VII.

Marie d'Anjou, by whom he had twelve children. Mention them.

1. Louis, the Dauphin.
  2. James, } Died young.
  3. Philip, }
  4. Charles, successively Duke of Berri, Normandy, and Guienne.
  5. Bodegada, married to the Duke of Austria.
  6. Catharine, married to the Count of Charolois.
  7. Joconda, married to the Duke of Savoy.
  8. Jane, married to the Duke of Bourbon.
  9. Madelaine, married to the Count de Foix.
- Three other daughters died young.

#### CHARACTER.

Charles obtained the name of victorious, from the conquests he effected through the Maid of Orleans. He was not deficient in courage, and braved danger like a private soldier ; yet he never headed his own forces. His chief defect was a love of pleasure and self-indulgence. He had not a mind sufficiently strong to struggle against adversity, neither did he sink under its pressure ; but he buried all his sorrows in licentious gratifications. When fortune was propitious, Charles knew how to profit by it, and the kingdom under his government made rapid advances in strength, order, and power.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1415. Jerome of Prague and John Huss, perish at the stake, for adhering to the doctrines of Wickliffe.

1432. The Azore Islands discovered by the Portuguese.

1439. The pragmatic sanction settled in France,

regulating the election of Bishops, and moderating the power of the people.

The Earl of Salisbury, who fell by a cannon shot, at the taking of Orleans, was the first gentleman ever slain by one.

The Vatican Library founded at Rome. Engraving and etching on copper invented.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Henry VI.

*Spain.*—*Castile.*—John II. Henry IV. *Arragon.*—Alphonso V. John II. marries Blanche of Navarre. *Navarre.*—Charles III. Blanche. Eleanor.

*The Empire.*—Sigismund. Albert II. Frederic III.

*The Papacy.*—Martin V. Eugenius IV. Nicholas V. Calistus III. Pius II.

#### LOUIS XI. LE ROI TRÈS CHRETIEN.

WHEN did he ascend the throne?

In 1461; died 1483, aged sixty-one, having reigned twenty-one years and some months.

Who was Louis XI?

Son of Charles VII. and Mary of Anjou. He was at the court of Burgundy when his father died, and had there received every mark of consideration from the reigning Duke, (Philip the Good,) and his son, then Count of Charolois. Louis had already made himself detestable by his unnatural conduct to his excellent father; and he confirmed every fear which was entertained of him, by depressing the nobles, most unjustly dismissing the upright ministers



of his father, and supplying their places by the artful and rapacious ;—men of low birth and habits.

Did Louis continue on amicable terms with the house of Burgundy ?

Louis was of too base a nature himself to have firm reliance and confidence in any. Jealousy and suspicion formed the basis of his character. Thus, though he professed the most ardent gratitude and friendship for both father and son, his encroaching spirit could not long brook any restraint. An arbitrary tax, which he renewed in Burgundy, first provoked angry feelings. The Duke, being in the decline of life, quietly yielded ; but the Count of Charolois, daring and enterprising, determined to resist the innovation. The repeal of the pragmatic sanction had already incensed the heads of the nobility. The Count de Dunois, the Dukes of Berri, Burgundy, and Bourbon, with the young Count Charobois, afterwards Charles the Bold, united with these in an union called “The League for the Public Good,” and declared themselves openly opposed to the King’s measures.

Did not Louis narrowly escape imprisonment ?

Yes. Many battles were fought, in which nothing was effected ; and Louis entered into a treaty most advantageous to the rebels in promise, but the articles of which he never meant to fulfil. Charles the Bold, who was now the reigning Duke of Burgundy, was fully aware of all the artful mazes in the character of Louis. On the King’s first infraction of the stipulation, the Duke prepared for hostilities ; and Louis, dreading so powerful an antagonist in the field, demanded an interview at Peronne, in Picardy, having

first clandestinely engaged the Liegois (dependants of Burgundy) to rebel.

Was the interview granted ?

Yes. Charles received the King with marks of respect for the confidence reposed in him : but no sooner was he apprised of the revolt of the Liegois, than he ordered the city and castle gates to be closed, pretending that it was for the discovery of a valuable casket of jewels which he had lost, and thus the treacherous monarch became a captive to his own vassal. Three days and nights was Louis kept in a state of the most dreadful anxiety : at the end of that time the Duke consented to release the King, on condition that he should march with him against the Liegois, whom he had stirred up. Having for once fulfilled his promise, and Liege being reduced, Louis was allowed to make his exit, before the town was fired.

What event had before transpired at this castle of Peronne ?

Here it was that the Count de Vermandois, in 924, confined Charles the Simple for four years, and afterwards put him to death. Before Charles of Burgundy liberated his sovereign, he made him sign a treaty of peace, restoring those possessions to the nobles which he had wrested from them on his accession. More particularly Charles insisted on Champagne and Brie being ceded to the Duke of Berri, who though brother to the King, was the ally of Burgundy. This part of the compact the perfidious monarch, when at liberty, sought to evade, fearing to strengthen his already powerful enemy, by placing his friend in an adjacent territory.

Did the King and the Duke of Burgundy continue on amicable terms ?

No. They were ever engaged in war or treaty : but even if they had had no private cause of altercation, the dissensions in England between the Yorkists and Lancastrians, were always a subject of dispute, as they advocated opposing parties.

What became of the Duke of Berri ?

Louis prevailed on him to accept the duchy of Guienne, in lieu of Champagne ; but fearing the completion of a marriage-treaty between this, his only brother, and Mary, sole heiress of the House of Burgundy, the Duke was soon afterwards carried off by poison. As suspicion fell on the King, the Duke of Burgundy entered Picardy with an armed force, committing the most dreadful massacres on the populace in his way ; and though no decisive blow was ever struck between the armies of Louis and Charles of Burgundy, the latter was repulsed in an attack on Beauvais, by the heroism of a female, Jeanne Hachette, who, at the head of a body of women, fought from the ramparts, and obliged the Duke to raise the siege.

Which of the attendants at the court of Louis acted with an equal share of deceit and treachery as their royal master ?

The Cardinal la Balue, and the Count de St. Pol. The former strongly urged the treachery with which the King acted towards the inhabitants of Liege, with a view to deceive the Duke of Burgundy. He also advised Louis to bestow Guienne, rather than Champagne, on his brother, the Duke of Berri. He then

counselled the Duke of Berri not to accept Guienne, and by letter informed the Duke of Burgundy of the base motives by which the King was actuated, and of various injurious expressions which the monarch had applied to him.

How was this artifice discovered ?

The Cardinal's letters were intercepted and exposed to the King, who confined him for eleven years in an iron cage, in the Château de Loches ; a mode of punishment which La Balue had himself invented for others.

Relate the perfidy of the Count de St. Pol.

St. Pol had originally been in the service of the Duke of Burgundy ; but by the offer of being made Constable of France, Louis bribed him into his service. In order to preserve amicable terms with the Duke, St. Pol assured him, that his only motive in entering the King's service, was to befriend him the more effectually ; but, on the contrary, his only endeavour was to excite hostile feeling in the minds of each, and to bring them to open warfare. At last, suspected by both, he was given up to Louis, and ended his life of intrigue and treachery on the scaffold.

Why did Edward IV. of England invade France ?

After the death of Henry VI. of Lancaster had in a great measure put an end to the civil commotions, Edward turned his ambitious projects towards the recovery of Normandy and Guienne. He had advanced as far as Calais with a numerous army, and there expected to be joined by his ally and brother-in-law, the Duke of Burgundy ; but that rash Prince,

forgetful of his arrangement with England, had directed all his force towards the frontiers of Germany, where he was waging war with the Duke of Lorraine.

How were affairs accommodated between the two monarchs?

By bribery and promises Louis prevailed on Edward to return to his own country. A treaty of truce for seven years was entered into at Pequigni, in which the English monarch promised his eldest daughter in marriage to the Dauphin, and received from Louis, the sum of fifty thousand crowns, for the ransom of Queen Margaret of Anjou. Amongst other gifts Louis sent three hundred carts laden with the best wines of France, to the English court; and not only made magnificent presents to the nobles, but feasted the whole army at Amiens for four days. Notwithstanding all these acts of seeming friendship, such a mutual distrust prevailed between the two Kings, that the interview for adjusting the treaty took place on a bridge over the Somme; each of the monarchs being secured in a wooden grate, thickly barricaded, capable of containing twelve men on each side, which Philip de Comines describes as resembling "a lion's cage."

What became of the Duke of Burgundy?

He met his death in action, at Nanci, in Lorraine, through the perfidy of an Italian, named Campo Basso. His only daughter, now become Duchess of Burgundy, was left in early youth, at the mercy of an insidious enemy and a rebellious people. She married Maximilian I., Emperor of Germany,



after having been betrayed to her own subjects by the treacherous Louis, upon whom Maximilian commenced hostilities.

What is said of the last years of Louis?

Dreading the approach of death, and fearing an enemy in every face, he shut himself up in the castle of Plessis, near Tours. He was twice struck with apoplexy. He caused pilgrimages to be made, and vows and prayer to be put up to Heaven, to grant him yet a longer existence. He covered himself with relics, and sent for the celebrated hermit, François de Paull, from Calabria, to intercede and pray for him. The fear of death, made him suffer torture equal to that he had so often inflicted. He expired at Plessis les Tours, and was buried at Notre Dame de Cléry.

Name the consorts of Louis XI.

1. Margaret, daughter of James I. of Scotland.
2. Charlotte of Savoy.

Mention his children.

1. Charles, who succeeded him.
2. Anne, married to the Lord of Beaujeu.
3. Joan, married to the Duke of Orleans.

Four other children died young.

#### CHARACTER.

Though Louis lived in the constant violation of every moral duty, he obtained the title of "Most Christian King," from his superstitious adherence to the forms of religion. He possessed sagacity and penetration; but even his good qualities were directed to bad ends. His life was one unvaried scene of treachery and hypocrisy, tyranny and cowardice

Though by humbling the nobles, and for ever abolishing the pretensions of England to the throne of France, he did much for the monarchy, yet he made the very name of King ridiculous, by his absurd follies and eccentricities.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

The order of St. Michael instituted. Posts and private couriers established by Louis. Printing was introduced into France by a member of the Sorbonne.

1480. The Court of Inquisition established in Spain, under Ferdinand and Isabella.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Edward IV.

*Spain.*—*Castile.*—Henry IV. Isabella. *Arragon.*—John II. Ferdinand II. marries Isabella of Castile. *Navarre.*—Eleanor. Frances Phœbus.

*The Empire.*—Frederic III.

*The Papacy.*—Pius II. Paul II. Sixtus IV.

#### CHARLES VIII. L'AFFABLE.

WHEN did he ascend the throne?

In 1483; died 1498, aged twenty-eight, having reigned fifteen years.

Who was Charles VIII?

The only surviving son of Louis XI. and Charlotte of Savoy. He succeeded his father in the thirteenth year of his age; Anne of Beaujeu, his sister, thirteen years his senior, having been made Regent by the late King.

What was the character of the Regent ?

She appears to have possessed her father's political talents, without his treacherous vices. Several Princes of the blood, but more especially the Duke of Orleans, who had married the younger daughter of Louis XI., disputed the Regency with this Lady of Beaujeu, and had recourse to the assembly of the States General, convened at Tours; but they, contrary to the expectation of the disputants, confirmed the will of the late King.

Did not a civil war ensue ?

Yes. The Duke of Orleans, though an amiable and honourable Prince, could not refrain from supporting his claims to power. He retired into Brittany, where the reigning Duke, Francis II., also opposed to the Lady of Beaujeu, assembled a large army, which met the French near St. Aubin. Here the Duke of Orleans was made captive, and after having been removed from prison to prison, was at last shut up in the Tower at Bourges: and to render his escape impracticable, he was every night locked up in an iron cage. At the age of fourteen, Charles nominally assumed the government.

Was not Brittany united to the crown of France in this reign.

Yes. On the death of Duke Francis II. many suitors made offers of marriage to his daughter and heiress: amongst others the Emperor Maximilian, Charles VIII., the Duke of Orleans, and the Sieur d'Albret. Regardless of the counsels of her people, Anne of Brittany made choice of the Emperor, and was united to him by proxy; but he, engaged in a

war with the Flemings, had neither money nor leisure to devote to the interests of his affianced bride.

What was the result of Maximilian's indifference?

The French, with political wisdom, converted this neglect to their own advantage. Charles released the Duke of Orleans, whom his sister had imprisoned, and who now advocated his cause with the Duchess of Brittany. After some delay, she consented to the marriage with the King. Thus Maximilian not only lost the advantages which his own union would have confirmed, but also lost the affianced husband of his daughter Margaret. Brittany was now united to France for ever.

Did not Maximilian resent the marriage of Charles?

Yes. The Emperor, joined by his ally, Henry VII. of England, and Ferdinand, King of Spain, marched into France with one of the best disciplined armies that had ever been seen there. Charles, although unable to cope with these united Princes in arms, managed to subdue them by bribes and treaties. To Maximilian he restored the dower of his daughter Margaret, the provinces of Artois and Franche Comté; the quiescence of Henry of England, (whose ruling passion was avarice,) was purchased by a yearly stipend of twenty-five thousand crowns, secured to him by the treaty of Estaples; whilst Ferdinand of Arragon received the long-disputed province of Roussillon.

Had not Charles other projects in view?

Yes. From the time of his emerging from the restraints of tutelage, he had formed the most

romantic and chivalrous ideas of conquest. He is said to have contemplated the heroic deeds of Charlemagne and Alexander, as his models ; and he at length determined that Italy should be the theatre of his glory.

To what part of Italy did Charles direct his march ?

To Naples; upon the throne of which kingdom he had some claim. For besides that Joanna, its last Princess, had conveyed her right to Charles of Anjou, brother of Charles VI., the Duke of Maine, grandson of René, had bequeathed the titular right to Louis XI. It was now possessed by an illegitimate branch of the house of Anjou. Ferdinand, the reigning monarch, was equally vicious and contemptible. His son Alphonso was also detested for his cruelties, and on these considerations Charles assured himself of conquest. Ludovico Sforza, who then governed Milan, was opposed to Ferdinand.

What did Charles effect on his road towards Naples ?

He entered Florence in triumph, marched to Rome, and took possession of the city. Pope Alexander VI., who had taken refuge in the castle of St. Angelo, almost immediately capitulated. Charles then proceeded to Naples, whence Alphonso II. (Ferdinand I., his father, having died a short time before,) fled on his approach, and took refuge in a convent. His successor, Ferdinand II. also panic-struck, abdicated the throne, and retired to the island of Ischia. Charles was received as a deliverer and protector; and a mighty conquest was achieved without bloodshed.



Did Charles profit by these advantages ?

No. Instead of securing these conquests, by prudence and discretion, he devoted his time, whilst at Naples, to the most luxurious and dissipated pleasures. The dethroned Princes had thus leisure to recover from the first shock which had overwhelmed them ; and that arm which separately they could not withstand, they resolved collectively to oppose. The Pope, the Emperor Maximilian, Ferdinand of Arragon, and Ludovico Sforza, entered into a confederacy to expel Charles from Italy ; and leaving de Bourbon Governor of Naples, the King and his army departed for France.

What awaited the King on his retreat ?

He arrived at Asti, in Piedmont, in safety, and expected here to be reinforced by the Duke of Orleans ; but that Prince had, in the interim, made an attack on Milan, on which he had an hereditary claim, and was now shut up in Navarre, by Ludovico Sforza. Charles was obliged immediately to march to the aid of the Duke of Orleans, and he was liberated by treaty. The confederate troops, amounting to forty thousand, came up with the diminutive army of the French, at Formosa. Though Charles manifested the most undaunted courage, all he effected was a safe passage into France. He was stripped of his mighty conquests, and Italy returned to her usual state of government.

Did not Naples still remain under the French yoke ?

Ferdinand of Arragon had sent the celebrated Gonsalvo di Cordova, with a body of Spanish troops, to assist Ferdinand of Naples in regaining his throne.

In 1496 Ferdinand was reinstated, and all Italy resumed its former appearance.

How did Charles meet his death?

Whilst at Amboise, where he was employed in erecting several magnificent edifices, he went with the Queen to witness a game at tennis, in an outer court. Passing through a low gallery he struck his head against a beam, and though at first he was not sensible of the severe injury he had received, he was soon after attacked with apoplexy. He survived the accident only nine hours. He was buried at St. Denis.

Mention his consort.

Anne of Brittany.

He had three children who died in infancy.

#### CHARACTER.

The education of Charles had been neglected in early life; but after he ascended the throne he strove to cultivate a taste for literature, and patronized learned men. He entertained romantic ideas of military glory, to which in a great measure he sacrificed the good of his people. Charles was affable, courteous, and obliging in an eminent degree; he was beloved by all who surrounded him. His person was small, and badly proportioned. Philip de Comines asserts, "That he was so good it was not possible to see a better creature."

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1483. Martin Luther born at Isleben, in Lower Saxony. Murder of the two Princes of England in the Tower, by Richard, Duke of Gloucester. The

court of France refuses the English Ambassador an audience.

1485. Richard III. of England killed, and Henry, Earl of Richmond, made King, at the battle of Bosworth.

1488. Cape of Good Hope discovered by Vasco de Gama.

1492. Christopher Columbus discovers America.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England*.—Edward V. Richard III. Henry VII.

*Spain*.—*Castile and Arragon*.—Ferdinand II. and Isabella. *Navarre*.—Catharine.

*The Empire*.—Frederic III. Maximilian I.

*The Papacy*.—Sixtus IV. Innocent VIII. Alexander VI.

### Third Branch of the Capetines.

#### THE HOUSE OF ORLEANS.—ONE KING.

#### LOUIS XII. LE PÈRE DU PEUPLE.

IN what year did he ascend the throne ?

In 1498 ; and died January the 1st, 1515, after a reign of sixteen years and some months, aged fifty-five.

Who was Louis XII ?

He was son of the Duke of Orleans, and

himself enjoyed that title before he ascended the throne. His grandfather, also Duke of Orleans, brother to Charles VI., was assassinated by his rival, the Duke of Burgundy, in the early part of that King's reign.

By what right did he claim the crown?

Charles VIII. died without issue; and as the Salique law excluded his sisters from sovereign power, Louis stood nearest in succession.

Where had he been brought up?

His father dying when he was very young, he was placed under the controul of his cousin, Louis XI., who looked on him with suspicion, on account of his connexion with the crown.

Was he not exiled from court?

Yes. During the minority of Charles VIII., through the enmity of the Lady of Beaujeu. She had been appointed by the late King, to hold the reins of government, and Louis aspired to the Regency.

Where did he take refuge?

In Brittany, where he ingratiated himself with the reigning Duke, and afterwards married his daughter, the richest heiress in Europe.

In what wars did Louis engage?

He first commenced hostilities against Ludovico Sforza, the reigning Duke of Milan, who fled on his approach: but no sooner had Louis completed his conquests, and returned to France, than Sforza immediately drove the French from the duchy. Louis, yet more exasperated, dispatched an army into the Milanese, under the conduct of the brave La Trimouille, who soon reconquered Milan, and took

Ludovico Sforza prisoner, who was confined for life in the castle of Loches.

What was the next military enterprise of Louis ?

He next turned his thoughts to the conquest of Naples ; but unable singly to effect his purpose, he called in the aid of Ferdinand, the Catholic, of Arragon, and conjointly they conquered that kingdom. But the division of the territory was the source of dissension between the monarchs ; an open war followed, in which the French were beaten at Carignola, and obliged to relinquish all claims on Naples.

Who was King of Naples at the time of this invasion ?

Frederic, who seeing impending ruin about to overwhelm him, sought refuge in France, where Louis bestowed on him the duchy of Anjou : to his other opponent, Ferdinand of Spain, Frederick committed the interests of his children.

But did not Louis and Ferdinand set aside their mutual animosities for a time, to make war on Venice ?

Yes. In concert with the Emperor Maximilian and Pope Julius II., the Kings of France and Spain, not only made war on the Venetians, but gained an important victory at Aignadel. This union of the four sovereigns was called the league of Cambray. It was considered a most impolitic alliance for France, since the three component powers were all adverse to Louis, and the Venetians were his only allies on that side the Alps.

In what battle did Louis defeat Pope Julius ?

With the concurrence of his clergy, Louis took



up arms against the Pontiff, and defeated him at Ravenna. Gaston de Foix, Duc de Nemours, the nephew of Louis, and one of the most renowned generals of France, fell in this action.

Did not Louis reconcile himself with his old ally, the Venetians ?

Yes. On the death of Pope Julius, and in union with that people, he reconquered, and again lost the Milanese.

Why did Henry VIII. of England enter on a war with France ?

It does not appear that he was actuated by any other motive, than a desire to distinguish himself in arms. He united with Maximilian in laying siege to Terouenne, in Picardy ; that city afterwards capitulated ; and as neither Maximilian nor Henry could determine to which nation it should belong, it was, by their mutual sanction, burned to the ground.

How was peace between England and France cemented ?

By the marriage of Louis with Mary, youngest sister of Henry VIII., a princess, who was betrothed to the Prince of Asturias, but whose affections were pre-engaged to the Duke of Suffolk, whom she married after the decease of Louis.

How many consorts had Louis XII ?

Three : 1. Jane, youngest daughter of Louis XI.  
2. Anne of Brittany, widow of Charles VIII. 3.  
Mary, youngest daughter of Henry VII.

What occasioned the death of Louis ?

A change from his usual habits of life (which he entered into to please his youthful bride, Mary,) disagreed with his health, and in a few weeks brought him to

the grave. He died at the Palais de Tournelles, and was buried at St. Denis.

Mention his issue.

He had by Anne of Bretagne, two sons, who died in infancy, and two daughters.

1. Claudia, who married the Count d'Angoulême, afterwards Francis I.

2. Renée, married to the Duke of Ferrara.

#### CHARACTER.

Louis consulted the domestic happiness of his subjects, diminished the taxes, encouraged commerce, and administered justice with impartiality. In his political life, he was guilty of some errors, and was constantly overreached by the machinations of his contemporaries, Ferdinand and Maximilian.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1499. The marriage of Louis XII. and Jane of France, dissolved by Pope Alexander V.

1500. Maximilian divides the empire of Germany into six circles, to which three were added in 1512.

1501. Conquest of Naples by Louis.

1503. Julius II. patron of the arts, the inveterate enemy of France, succeeds to the Papacy.

1504. Death of Isabella of Castile, the friend of Columbus.

1506. Louis receives the title of "Father of his people."

1508. Louis, in conjunction with the Emperor Maximilian, the King of Arragon, and the Pope, enters into the league of Cambray, against the Venetians.

1512. Pope Julius defeated at Ravenna. Navarre united to Spain.

1513. Defeat of the French at Guinegate ; from their flight, contemptuously called by the English, " the battle of the spurs."

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Henry VII., who dying in 1508, is succeeded by his son, Henry VIII.

*Spain.*—Ferdinand II. of Arragon, and Isabella of Castile. Catharine of Navarre.

*The Empire.*—Maximilian.

*The Papacy.*—Alexander VI. Pius III. Julius II. Leo X.

### Fourth Branch of the Capetines.

#### SECOND HOUSE OF VALOIS.—FIVE KINGS.

#### FRANCIS I. LE RESTAURATEUR DES LETTRES.

WHEN did Francis begin to reign ?

In 1515, and died 1547, aged fifty-three, after a reign of thirty-two years and three months.

Who was Francis I ?

Like Louis XII., he was also a descendant of the Duke of Orleans, brother to Charles VI. He was grandson of that Prince, and succeeded his cousin, Louis XII., in the twenty-first year of his age. His

father, who died when Francis was very young, was Count d'Angoulême, and his mother, Louisa of Savoy, a beautiful and accomplished princess, but wholly devoid of principle.

By whom had Francis been educated ?

By his mother, who lived in perfect retirement at Amboise. He was instructed only in the light accomplishments of his time ; and thus the love of glory and of chivalry were his leading principles when he came to the throne.

What title did Francis assume at his coronation, in addition to that of King of France ?

That of Duke of Milan. The possession of this duchy seems to have been his great object through life, as it had been that of his predecessor. Both these Princes laid claim to the Milanese, as descendants of Valentina Visconti, lawful heiress of this state. By Louis it had been taken, and recaptured by Maximilian Sforza, who was in actual possession of it, and against whom Francis first took up arms.

Who was the great rival and contemporary of Francis ?

Charles V. King of Spain, and Emperor of Germany ; a politic, and enterprising Prince, as much superior to Francis in all the manœuvres of state policy, as he was his inferior in the virtues of magnanimity and candour

What was the first subject of dispute between Francis and Charles ?

A contest for the Empire of Germany, the throne of which was vacant, by the death of Maximilian. Charles claimed it as heir of the House of Austria ; Francis, as an enterprising monarch. The preten-

sions of the two aspirants were settled by the virtuous Frederic, Elector of Saxony, who magnanimously rejected the imperial dignity for himself: and chosen umpire, decided in favour of Charles. Though Francis still openly professed amicable feelings towards his more fortunate rival, yet, from this moment, he transferred his friendship to Henry VIII. of England. Leo X., then Pope, used every means in his power to fan the flame of discord between France and Spain.

Did not the Swiss make war on France?

Yes. The stipulations entered into by La Tremouille at Dijon, had been disregarded, and the Swiss determined to invade France. They marched an immense army into Piedmont, where Francis had already advanced his troops, on their way to Milan. At Marignano the Swiss received a total defeat, and the duchy of Milan also fell into the hands of France. It was after the battle of Marignano, that Francis was knighted by the celebrated chevalier Bayard.

How came the Constable de Bourbon, once the ally of Francis, to enter into the service of Charles?

Disgusted with the neglect of his sovereign, and the intrigues of the Queen Mother, just as Francis was on the point of making a fresh descent on the Milanese, Charles of Bourbon withdrew from his allegiance; and in the fatal battle of Pavia, in which Francis was taken captive, actually fought against his lawful King. The Emperor, Charles de Bourbon, and Henry VIII. of England, planned the invasion of France; and anticipating the conquest of that country, had made a division of the provinces amongst themselves; the Constable de Bourbon died



in the Imperial service, in the act of commencing an assault on the city of Rome.

How did Francis pass the closing years of his reign?

In religious disputes and discussions. On the preaching of Calvin the Reformer, the Vaudois, a remnant of the persecuted Albigenses, gladly embraced his doctrine. Francis, yielding to the persuasions of Cardinal de Tournon, and the Baron d'Oppede, permitted their persecution and their murder. The cities of Merindol and Cabrières were taken; but the cold-blooded torture of the inhabitants after the capture, is too horrid to describe.

Whom did Francis marry?

1. Claudia, daughter of Louis XII. 2. Eleanor, widow of Emanuel, King of Portugal, a sister of Charles V.

What occasioned his death?

A slow fever, brought on by intemperance. He expired at Rambouillet, (Seine et Oise,) and was buried with great pomp at the abbey of St. Denis.

Mention his issue.

By his first consort, Claudia, he had seven children.

1. Francis, the Dauphin, who died by poison.
2. Henry, who succeeded to the throne.
3. Charles, Duke of Orleans and Angoulême.

4. Louisa, } Both died unmarried.  
5. Charlotte, }

6. Margaret, married to the Duke of Savoy.
7. Madelaine, married to James V. of Scotland.

By the second marriage he had no issue.

## CHARACTER.

Francis was rash, profuse, and credulous; affable in manners, dignified in person, and honourable in treaty. He was the friend of literature, the patron of the fine arts, which flourished under his auspices. Architecture more particularly is indebted to him. The palaces of the Louvre, Fontainbleau, and St. Germain, the Royal College at Paris, (which latter was also richly endowed,) were built by him. The attainment of military glory was his ruling passion: he gained numerous battles, and took many cities; yet his wars and negociations were alike unprofitable.

## REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1515. Francis enters Italy, defeats the Milanese in a formidable engagement at Marignano, dispossesses Maximilian Sforza, and becomes undisputed master of the duchy. First treaty with Charles V.

1516. Death of Ferdinand, King of Spain: he is succeeded by Charles V.

1518. Leo publishes his sale of indulgencies, which Luther opposes.

1519. Death of the Emperor Maximilian. Francis and Charles compete for the Empire: Charles is elected.

1520. Interview between Henry VIII. of England, and Francis, at Guisnes; from the magnificence displayed there, called "the Field of the Cloth of Gold." Charles convokes a diet at Worms to condemn the reformed religion. Charles and Henry meet at Gravelines. Henry promises to remain neuter in the affairs of France and Germany.

1521. Disastrous state of affairs in the Milanese. The French lose all their conquests in Italy. Leo X. dies from excessive joy at the defeat of the French: succeeded by Adrian IV., preceptor of Charles V.

1523. Conspiracy of the Constable De Bourbon. He enters into the imperial service. Execution of an iniquitous sentence on Semblançai, the minister of finance, victim of the perfidy of the Queen Mother.

1524. Death of the Chevalier Bayard, the Knight "Sans peur et sans reproche."

1525. Fatal battle of Pavia, in which Francis is taken prisoner, and ten thousand of his people slain. After having been confined some time in a castle near Cremona, he is, at his own request, taken a prisoner to Madrid, where he seeks an interview with the Emperor.

1526. Francis signs the treaty of Madrid, and obtains his liberation.

1527. The city of Rome taken by the Imperialists under Bourbon, who is slain: the Pope, who had fled for refuge to the fortress of St. Angelo, made prisoner.

1529. Treaty of Cambray. Peace between Francis and Charles, in which two females were the great negociators; Louisa for France, and Margaret of Austria for the Empire. Title of Protestants first given to the followers of Luther.

1536. Charles invades France, enters Provence, and is repulsed at Marseilles. The Dauphin dies, as is supposed, by poison.

1538. A ten years' truce agreed on between France and Charles: the latter fearing the alliance into which Francis had entered, with Soliman, Emperor of Turkey.

1542 Renewal of hostilities between France and Germany, because Charles refuses to give up the Milanese, according to a promise he had made to that effect, in return for a safe passage which Francis had allowed him to make through his territory, when he went to chastise the people of Ghent.

1544. Peace once more concluded at Créssi.

1546. Peace with England.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Henry VIII., who died a few months before Francis.

*Spain.*—Ferdinand II. Charles I. King of Spain, and Emperor of Germany, under the title of Charles V. Catharine of Navarre. Henry II. of Navarre.

*The Papacy.*—Leo X. Adrian VI. Clement VII. Paul III.

*The Empire.*—Maximilian. Charles V.

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### HENRY II.

IN what year did he succeed to the throne ?

In 1547 ; died 1559, after a reign of twelve years and three months, in the forty-first year of his age.

Who was Henry II ?

Second son of Francis I. and Claudia ; he appears to have inherited the ambition, though not the military talents of his father.

How was he educated ?

In early life he had been neglected. Diana of Poitiers seems to have taken on herself the improvement of his mind and manners, with the King's

consent. After the death of the Dauphin, (the favourite son of Francis,) Henry was admitted into some share in the government, and an important command in the army.

Under what auspices did Henry ascend the throne?

Under the most favourable circumstances; the country was in a state of peace; the finances were in a flourishing condition; well disciplined troops were headed by able generals, and offices of state were filled by men of tried ability and integrity.

Whence then the source of the troubles of this and the three subsequent reigns?

They may chiefly be traced to two causes; first, to Henry's infringement of his father's dying injunctions; secondly, to the power and tyranny of factions and favourites.

What were these injunctions?

1. That no authority should be vested in the house of Lorraine, because Francis already perceived the dawn of their ambition; 2. that Montmorenci should not be recalled from exile.

How many parties were there in France in this reign?

Four: 1. that of the Constable Montmorenci, who was immediately recalled to court; 2. that of the Guises, descendants of the house of Lorraine. Henry loaded Charles, Duke of Guise, with favours, and placed him in authority; 3. that of Diana of Poitiers, widow of La Brèze, Seneschal of Normandy; 4. the party of Catharine de Medici; but this last had no influence with the King.

Whom did Henry marry?



Catharine de Medici, daughter of Lorenzo de Medici, Duke d'Urbino.

What occasioned Henry's death?

Whilst engaged in a splendid tournament at Paris, which he had given to honour the marriage of his eldest daughter, or of his sister Margaret, or of both, (a point on which historians differ,) Henry was accidentally wounded in the eye, by a lance from the hand of Montgomery, captain in the Scotch guards. He survived only a few days. He died at Paris, and was buried at St. Denis.

Name the children of Henry II.

1. Francis, married to Mary, Queen of Scots.
2. Charles, Duke of Orleans, afterwards Charles IX.
3. Henry, Duke of Anjou, afterwards Henry III.
4. Francis, Duke d'Alençon.
5. Eleanor, married to Philip II. of Spain.
6. Claude, married to the Duke of Lorraine.
7. Margaret, married to Henry IV. of France.

#### CHARACTER.

Henry was a Prince of very moderate abilities : his mind was weak and vacillating, and he had little taste for the sciences. He was handsome and graceful in his person, cheerful and obliging in his disposition.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1549. Melancholy death of Paul III.

1551. War with the Emperor. Henry allies himself with the Protestant Princes of Germany. The Duke of Guise distinguishes himself by his military exploits.

1555. Change in the politics of Europe, from Charles resigning the crown of Spain to his son Philip.

1556. Charles resigns the empire to his brother Ferdinand.

1557. Battle of St. Quentin.

1558. January 1, Conquest of Calais by the Duke of Guise. It had been possessed by the English two hundred and ten years.

1559. Peace between France and Spain ratified by the treaty of Chateau Cambresis.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England*.—Edward VI. Mary. Elizabeth.

*Spain*.—Charles I., King of Spain, and Emperor of Germany, under the title of Charles V. Philip II. Henry II. of Navarre. Jean d'Albrèt of Navarre, married to Anthony of Bourbon,

*The Empire*.—Charles V. Ferdinand I.

*The Papacy*.—Paul III. Julius III. Marcellus II. Paul IV.

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### FRANCIS II.

WHEN did he succeed to the throne?

In 1559; died in 1560, in the eighteenth year of his age, having reigned one year and five months.

Who was Francis II?

Eldest son of Henry II. by Catharine de Medici.

What was the state of the kingdom on his coming to the throne?

Catharine de Medici, who had in vain aimed at authority in the last reign, now aspired to power;

whilst the Princes of the blood, the Guises, and the family of Montmorenci, all ambitious of dignities and command, plunged the country in the horrors of civil war.

Who were the Princes of the blood ?

Anthony de Bourbon, become King of Navarre by his marriage with Jean d'Albrèt, and his brother, Henry, Prince of Condé: these headed the Protestant party. There was also another brother, Charles, Cardinal de Bourbon, but he was a man of inferior capacity.

Name the family of the Guises.

The Duke of Guise and his five brothers. The Cardinal of Lorraine, the Duke d'Aumale, the Cardinal of Guise, the Marquis d'Elbœuf, and the Grand Prior; men abounding in military and political talent, no less than in the mazes of intrigue and dissimulation; these were the leaders of the Catholics. In religious persecution, they were united with the Queen Mother.

What had become of Montmorenci ?

Repulsed in his endeavours to obtain favour, and finding his party weakened by the defection of his relatives, Coligni and Andelot, (who joined the Huguenots,) Montmorenci at length went over to the Guises, and united with them in the persecution of the Protestants.

Whom did Francis marry ?

Mary, the young and beautiful Queen of Scotland, daughter of James V. and Mary of Guise. She had been sent to France very early in life, to escape the troubles of her own country; and by the manœuvres of the Guises, was united to Francis, when Dauphin.

What occasioned the death of Francis II?

An abscess in the head is assigned as the immediate cause : but he had always been of a weak and sickly temperament. He was buried at St. Denis.

Francis died without issue.

#### CHARACTER.

Francis appears to have been as infirm of purpose, as he was weak in body. In fact he was on the throne so short a time, and was in that brief interval so completely governed by the Guises, and his mother, that he was but the shadow of a King.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1559. Cruel persecution of the Protestants in the *Chambres Ardentes*, headed by the Guises. The court removes from Blois to Amboise.

1560. Conspiracy of Amboise, a plot to destroy the Duke of Guise whilst at that place, discovered : the parties concerned in it (Protestants) put to death with cruel barbarity. Bourbon and Condé arrested : the latter condemned to death for the affair at Amboise : saved by the death of Francis.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England*.—Elizabeth.

*Spain*.—Philip II. Jean d'Albrèt of Navarre, married to Anthony of Bourbon.

*The Empire*.—Ferdinand I.

*The Papacy*.—Pius IV.

## CHARLES IX.

WHEN did he ascend the throne ?

In 1560 ; died in 1574, in the twenty-fifth year of his age, after a reign of thirteen years and six months.

Who was Charles IX ?

Second son of Henry II. and Catharine de Medici, brother to Francis II., whom he succeeded when only ten years of age, under the Regency of the Queen Mother. From motives of state policy, the Queen ceded a share of the government to Anthony of Bourbon, King of Navarre, under the title of Lieutenant General of the kingdom. This was ratified by the deputies of the state, then assembled at Lyons.

Was not the Prince de Condé, brother of the King of Navarre, under sentence of death ?

Yes ; but Catharine reversed his sentence, liberated him, and in time restored him to his former favour. Against these measures she was urged by the Guises, who wished the total annihilation of the race of Bourbon ; but for once Catharine's better genius prevailed, and she listened to the counsels of the Chancellor Hopital, a man eminently qualified, by inflexible principle and sterling ability, for the high office which he filled.

What other person of note was again brought forward ?

The Constable Montmorenci, once the friend of Francis I., but afterwards banished by him : recalled by Henry II., he was again dismissed from court under Francis II., and at his death was once more rein-



stated by Catharine and the King of Navarre, each desiring him, as a check, on the ambitious views of the other.

But was not Montmorenci of the Catholic party?

Yes; and the Queen at heart was a bigoted Catholic, though she made every religious and moral sentiment, subservient to the furtherance of her worldly interests?

What had become of Mary, relict of Francis II?

Finding her influence, and that of the Guises, decline at court, she reluctantly returned to her native country; and after a series of errors and misfortunes, she suffered death in England.

What occasioned the first bloodshed in this reign?

Catharine had granted the Huguenots a free exercise of their religious ceremonies, provided they confined their meetings to the suburbs, and avoided the cities and towns. Some servants of the Duke of Guise interrupted a congregation of Calvinists assembled at Vassy, a village on the borders of Champagne; a contest ensued, in which the Duke of Guise was wounded, and thus civil and religious discord spread throughout the country. The Protestants at this time were victors, and marked their conquests with atrocious cruelties. The cities of Rouen, Tours, and Orleans were taken by them.

What Prince was mortally wounded at the siege of Rouen?

Anthony of Bourbon. The sovereignty of Navarre returned to his widow; his son (afterwards the renowned Henry IV.) being only Prince of Bearne, during the life-time of his mother.

Where is it supposed that the extermination of the Protestants was planned ?

At Bayonne, eight years before the massacre of St. Bartholomew. Here the young King, on attaining his majority, (thirteen,) repaired, with his mother and all the nobles in his train, to visit his sister, Elizabeth of Spain, and amidst the splendour and festivity of balls, fêtes, and tournaments, Ferdinand Alvarez, Duke of Alva, the confidant of Philip II., conferred with Catharine on the ruin of the Huguenots.

Was Charles aware of his mother's sanguinary purposes ?

It cannot be supposed that he was, in the first instance ; but as he advanced in years and crime, he seems to have entered fully into his mother's views ; and when the dreadful hour arrived, and Paris became the theatre of murder and bloodshed, Charles is said to have lent a willing hand in firing on the wretched fugitives.

Who was the first victim in the massacre of St. Bartholomew ?

Admiral Coligni. The better to conceal her purposes, Catharine had formed an alliance between Henry of Bourbon and her daughter, Margaret de Valois. Paris, where the nuptials were celebrated, was the scene of joy and festivity, and the Huguenots in honour of Henry, (by the sudden death of his mother, now become King of Navarre,) were treated with marked attention. Coligni, returning one evening from the palace to his own house, was fired on, and wounded, but not dangerously.

What ensued ?

Charles and his mother, with well dissembled sorrow, bewailed the accident, and under pretence of securing the assassin, caused the city-gates to be closed. Two days after this event the massacre begun, and all hopes of escape were thus cut off. Coligni was the first victim of the Duke of Guise; and the Catholic party endeavoured to sully his memory, by attributing to him the odium of the massacre.

What became of Henry of Navarre?

He and his cousin, the Prince de Condé, saved themselves by abjuring their religion.

Whom did Charles marry?

Elizabeth of Austria, daughter of Maximilian II., a Princess of an amiable and gentle nature. She had one daughter, who died at the age of six years.

Of what did Charles die?

The horrors of a guilty conscience tormented him night and day; the cries of his murdered subjects resounded for ever in his ears: he was the victim of superstitious, no less than of well-grounded fears, and at last his body was assailed by a dreadful malady, which, after a fortnight's continuance, brought him to his end. He died at Vincennes, and was buried at St. Denis.

#### CHARACTER.

Charles inherited from nature, genius, judgment, and courage. He piqued himself on being an adept in dissimulation, and on his knowledge of physiognomy. In the beginning of his reign he was mild and gracious in his manners, but towards the close, he was dejected and ferocious. He was passionately

fond of hunting, and of all manly exercises. His education under such a mother as Catharine, was execrable. When very young he contracted a habit of swearing, which from his example became prevalent at court.

## REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1562. Massacre of the French Protestants at Vassy. Elizabeth of England supports the Huguenots, Philip of Spain the Romanists. Battle of Dreux. Rouen besieged by the Catholics. Death of the King of Navarre.

1563. Murder of Francis, Duke of Guise, by Poltrôt, who unjustly implicates Coligni in his crime. Accommodation between the Catholics and Protestants.

1565. The King and court visit Bayonne.

1567. Enterprize at Meaux. The Protestants endeavour to secure the King, who saves himself by flight. Battle of St. Denis. Death of Montmorenci, in the seventy-second year of his age. Command of the army bestowed on the Duke of Anjou, afterwards King of Poland, the favourite son of Catharine.

1569. Battle of Jarnac. Murder of the Prince de Condé, brother of Anthony of Bourbon, at the instigation of the Duke of Anjou.

1570. Marriage of the King. Peace concluded, and the treaty signed at St. Germain en Laye.

1572. Sudden death of the Queen of Navarre at Paris, attributed to poison. August 18, Marriage of Henry of Navarre with Margaret of Valois. August 22, Coligni wounded. August 24, Eve of

St. Bartholomew : Coligni stabbed at the instigation of Henry, Duke of Guise, to revenge the imputed murder of his brother Francis. The massacre continues three days in Paris, during which time ten thousand five hundred persons perish : it extends to the provinces by order of the King. Pope Gregory XIII. proclaims a Jubilee in memory of the massacre of St. Bartholomew, calling it "The Triumph of the Church Militant."

1573. The Duke of Anjou elected King of Poland.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England*.—Elizabeth.

*Spain*.—Philip II. Jean d'Albrèt of Navarre. Henry III. of Navarre, afterwards Henry IV. of France.

*The Empire*.—Ferdinand I. Maximilian II.

*The Papacy*.—Pius IV. Pius V. Gregory XIII.

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### HENRY III.

WHEN did he ascend the throne ?

In 1574 ; died 1588, aged thirty-nine, after a reign of nearly fifteen years.

Who was Henry III ?

The third son of Henry II. and Catharine de Medici, formerly Duke of Anjou ; and three months prior to his brother's death elected King of Poland.

Where was Henry when the late King died ?

At Cracow. On receiving the tidings of his brother's death he quitted that city, without declaring his intention of resigning the crown. Passing through



Germany, the Venetian and Sardinian territories, he was, at Vienna, Venice, and Turin, received with regal honours; and it was more than three months after the King's demise ere Henry entered France.

Who governed during the three months interregnum?

Catharine de Medici, whom her son immediately, by letter, invested with plenary authority till his return. During this interval she commanded Montgomery, the accidental cause of her husband's death, to be beheaded.

Did Henry, on his return, devote himself to the interests of his kingdom?

No. He troubled himself little with affairs of state; these he abandoned to his mother and his favourites, whilst he was occupied with the most frivolous amusements.

What is meant by the "League," which was formed in this reign?

The Catholics were dismayed at the toleration conceded to the Huguenots, and therefore entered into a confederacy to maintain and support the interests of their faith. At the head of this league was the Duke of Guise; but Henry, fearing his power and growing ascendancy, caused himself to be proclaimed chief of the party; whilst Philip II. of Spain, was styled Protector of the League.

What had become of Henry of Navarre?

After the horrors of St. Bartholomew, he again embraced the Protestant faith, resisting every invitation to return to court.

How had this Prince now become an object of aversion to the different powers of the "League?"

By the death of Francis, Duke d'Alençon, he was now presumptive heir to the throne; and from his religious tenets naturally obnoxious to the Catholic party.

What is meant by the War of the Three Henrys?

That in which Henry III. at the head of the Royalists; Henry of Navarre, chief of the Protestants; and Henry, Duke of Guise, who wished to forward the interests of the Cardinal de Bourbon in the succession, were the disputants.

How was Henry regarded by his subjects?

With contempt. The Princes of the League held him in aversion, and he was beloved only by his favourites.

What is meant by "Le Jour des Barricades?"

When the Duke of Guise, who had been forbidden to approach the capital, entered it, sword in hand, with four thousand Swiss soldiers, and erected barricades throughout the principal streets, which extended within sight of the Louvre, Henry, thus besieged in his capital, was obliged to seek safety in flight. He escaped to Chartres, where he formed a disgraceful treaty with the Huguenots.

What became of the Duke of Guise?

Henry, fearing his increasing popularity, caused him and his brother, the Cardinal of Lorraine, to be assassinated.

What was the effect of this measure?

The Duke of Mayenne, younger brother of the Guises, was made head of the League, and Henry was declared unfit to govern. The capital was in a state of anarchy; whole provinces revolted, and at last, as an expiring effort for his throne,

Henry craved assistance from the King of Navarre.

Did the King of Navarre accede to his request?

Yes. The two Kings met at the castle of Plessis les Tours, in Touraine, were reconciled, vowed to unite their efforts against the League, and with their combined forces, amounting to thirty-eight thousand men, once more appeared before Paris. The League, headed by the Duke de Mayenne, had just been defeated at Senlis; Henry of Navarre now hastened to the defence of the capital, whilst the King had stationed himself at St. Cloud.

What became of Catharine de Medici?

Though her life had been a constant series of crime, intrigue, and discord, she appears to have made her exit almost without notice. She died at the age of seventy-two, when the sceptre of France was about to depart from her family for ever. Catharine was a proficient in the arts of falsehood, intrigue, and dissimulation, without any principle of virtue to guide her actions, or any feeling of humanity to restrain her passions.

Whom did Henry marry?

Louisa of Lorraine, daughter of the Count de Vaudemont. He left no issue. This has been called the reign of favourites, because Henry III., more than any other King of France, was governed by them.

What happened to Henry whilst at St. Cloud?

He was stabbed by a Dominican friar, whilst in the act of reading a petition which he had presented to him. It is supposed that the Duchess of Montpensier, the King of Spain, and the heads of the

League were accessories to the murder. The King survived the wound only till the following morning. He was buried first at Compeigne, and afterwards at St. Denis.

#### CHARACTER.

Henry certainly possessed some great qualities in early life, or he would not have been called to the throne of Poland; but it is equally certain, that no vestige of them is to be traced in his subsequent conduct as King of France. He was weak, frivolous, and superstitious; unstable in his religious tenets, and ridiculous in his pretended acts of devotion. He was, however, affable, easy of access, and susceptible of friendship and confidence.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1575. Marriage of the King.

1576. Formation of the "Sainte Ligue," headed by the Duke of Guise.

1577. The King, alarmed at the conditions and scheme of the League, places himself at the head of the party.

1578. The Duke d'Alençon, now become Duke of Anjou, engages in a treaty with the Flemings, to throw off the yoke of Philip II. of Spain. Being suspected of views on the crown, he is forced to return to France. Death of the King's favourites, Quelus, Maugeron, and St. Mégrin.

1580. Portugal united to Spain.

1584. Death of the Duke of Anjou. Henry of Navarre now becomes presumptive heir to the crown.

1585. Pretended claims of the Cardinal de Bourbon, uncle of Henry of Navarre, seconded by the House of Lorraine. War of the three Henrys. Sixtus V. considering Henry of Navarre as an heretic, absolves his subjects from their allegiance. Edict of the King of Navarre, confiscating the property of all the Catholics within his conquered provinces.

1587. Victory of Henry of Navarre over the Royalists, at Coutras, in Perigord.

1588. Death of the Prince de Condé, at the town of St. Jean d'Angely, in Angoumois. The Duke of Guise forbidden to enter Paris, disobeys the injunction. "Jour des barricades." The King retreats to Chartres. Death of the Duke of Guise, and of his brother.

1589. Death of Catharine de Medici, at Blois. Duke de Mayenne made chief of the League. Conquests of the King of Navarre. Union of the Royalists and Huguenots. Death of the King.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England*.—Elizabeth.

*Spain*.—Philip II. Henry III. of Navarre.

*The Empire*.—Maximilian II. Rodolphus II.

*The Papacy*.—Gregory XIII. Sixtus V.



## **Fifth Branch of the Capetines.**

HOUSE OF BOURBON.—SIX KINGS.

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### **HENRY IV. LE GRAND.**

WHEN did he ascend the throne ?

In 1589; died 1610, in the fifty-seventh year of his age, after a reign of twenty-one years and nine months.

Who was Henry IV ?

Eldest son of Anthony of Bourbon and Jean d'Albret, Queen of Navarre. He was a descendant of Robert de Clermont, fifth son of St. Louis.

How did this King merit the appellation of the Great ?

By his fortitude in adversity, and his moderation in prosperity.

Upon what grounds did he claim the throne ?

Henry III. with his last breath, nominated Henry of Navarre his successor, and distant as was the relationship, (it being only in the twenty-first degree of consanguinity,) still his claim was well founded. The Duke de Mayenne, head of the League, nominated the Cardinal de Bourbon, his uncle, and he was made King, under the title of Charles X.

How did Henry engage the Catholic Royalists to favour his cause ?

When Henry found that one half of the army had deserted to the party of the League, he was compelled to make great concessions to his opponents. He

solemnly promised to support the Catholic tenets in his dominions, to listen to the doctrine of their divines, and to engage any of the Catholic nobles to defend his crown.

By whom were his claims allowed ?

By the Protestant Princes of Germany ; by Elizabeth, Queen of England ; and by the Huguenot party in France ; whilst Philip II. of Spain, joined the League, in opposing them.

How had Henry's early years been spent ?

He had learned the science of war, under those able generals Coligni and the Prince de Condé. The first few years of his life he passed in France ; but his mother, who had embraced the reformed faith, recalled him early, lest his religious principles should take a wrong bias.

Did Henry continue the siege of Paris, which had been begun at the death of his predecessor ?

No. His forces were insufficient for that purpose. He retreated into Normandy, and there, pursued by the Duke of Mayenne, he gained the battle of Ivry.

What opposition did Henry meet with from the Duke of Parma ?

Under the direction of Philip II. the Duke obliged him, at different times, to raise the siege of Paris and of Rouen. Here Henry was assisted, both with men and money, by Elizabeth, Queen of England.

What design had Philip in view at this time ?

That of annulling the Salique law in France, in favour of his daughter Isabella, the Infanta, the nearest relative of Henry III.

Did the King continue in the Protestant Faith ?

No. Four years after his accession he received

absolution from Clement VIII., was admitted into the Catholic faith, and solemnly crowned King of France and Navarre, at Chartres, by Nicholas de Thou, Bishop of that city.

At what crisis was peace concluded with Spain?

A few months prior to the death of Philip. The treaty was signed at Vervins, in Bretagne. The Spaniards ceded Calais, and all their conquests in France.

What was the Edict of Nantz?

A permission, which granted to the Huguenots, not merely the free exercise of their religion, but an access to all situations of trust and honour, in common with the Catholic subjects.

Who was Henry's prime minister?

Maximilian de Bethune, Marquis de Rosny, afterwards created Duke de Sully; a man of undeviating principle, and a genius fitted equally for the camp or the cabinet. He regulated the whole system of finance, which he found in a state of extreme confusion, maintained the dignity of the crown, without infringing the rights of the people; paid off the national debts, and increased the revenue, whilst he reduced the taxes.

What was Henry's last design?

Henry had long wished to humble the Spanish branch of the house of Austria; and Albert, the reigning Archduke, had incensed him, by offering refuge to the Princess de Condé, contrary to his express command; this determined Henry immediately to assemble an army to execute his project.

Do not historians consider that Henry had other schemes in view?

Yes. It is said that he had formed the visionary project of uniting all the powers of Europe in a sort of Christian republic, for their mutual defence. Be this as it may, Henry had levied his army, determined to head it himself, had appointed the Queen-consort Regent, during his absence, and was on the point of setting out, when he was detained to assist at her coronation.

Whom did Henry marry?

1. Margaret de Valois, daughter of Henry II.
2. Mary de Medici, daughter of Francis, Grand Duke of Tuscany.

Mention his children.

By Mary de Medici he had six children, five of whom survived him.

1. Louis the Dauphin, who succeeded him.
2. Duke of Orleans, who died when four years old.
3. Gaston Jean Baptiste, Duke of Orleans.
4. Elizabeth, married to Philip IV. of Spain.
5. Christiana, married to the Duke of Savoy.
6. Henrietta Maria, married to Charles I. of England.

How did Henry meet his end?

The day after the ceremony of the coronation he was assassinated by Ravallac, whilst in his carriage, attended by four of his ministers. Ravallac was a fanatic of Angoulême, who for six months had contemplated the King's death. He maintained to the last that he acted without accomplices, and that his only aim was to benefit the nation, by the extermination of a King who favoured the Huguenots, and whose professions of the Catholic faith he doubted.

The body of this King was buried at St. Denis, his heart in the Jesuits' church of La Flèche.

#### CHARACTER.

Henry IV. was one of the greatest Princes that ever swayed the sceptre of France. He united courage with humanity; dignity of mind with simplicity of manners. Clemency and liberality were his distinguishing virtues, and he was beloved no less than admired by his subjects. He promoted arts, manufactures, and commerce, and adorned his capital by the erection of many public buildings. Henry however, was not free from great defects; and his want of consistency on religious points, and his inordinate indulgence, in a taste for gambling, with other irregularities, are thought to have laid the foundation of that infidelity and immorality, by which the French, in after ages, have been distinguished.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1590. Battles of Arques and Ivry. Death of Charles X.

1593. Henry embraces Catholicism.

1594. Henry is crowned at Chartres. Jean Chastel, a Jesuit, attempts the life of the King.

1595. The Duke de Mayenne, last of the Guises, submits to Henry, and becomes his faithful ally.

1598. The peace of Vervins. Henry grants the Edict of Nantz. Death of Philip II.

1599. Total cessation of the League; its remaining members dispersed. The King divorces Margaret de Valois, and the following year marries Mary de Medici.



1602. The culture of silk introduced into France : foundation of the silk-trade of Lyons.

1603. Death of Elizabeth, Queen of England, the great ally of Henry.

1604. The Pont Neuf, and galleries of the Louvre erected in Paris.

1608. Dispute with regard to the succession in the duchies of Cleves and Julius.

1609. Evangelical union in Germany.

1610. The Queen-consort is crowned at St. Denis. Henry is murdered at Paris, in the Rue de la Ferronnerie.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England*.—Elizabeth. James I.

*Spain*.—Philip II. Philip III.

*The Empire*.—Rodolphus II.

*The Papacy*.—Sixtus V. Urban VII. Gregory XIV. Innocent IX. Clement VIII. Leo. XI. Paul V.

#### LOUIS XIII. LE JUSTE.

WHEN did he ascend the throne?

In 1610 ; died 1643 ; reigned thirty-three years ; aged forty-two.

Who was Louis XIII ?

Eldest son of Henry IV. and Mary de Medici. He succeeded to the throne at nine years of age, under the regency of the Queen, his mother.

What was the character of Mary de Medici ?

Mary was a woman of weak mind and very inferior abilities. She was entirely governed by an Italian,

named Concini, and his wife, Leonora Galigai; and through their misconduct, and the ambitious views of the great, civil discord was soon disseminated in the kingdom.

Was the enterprise abandoned on which the late King was about to have entered?

In a great measure it was, contrary to the advice of Sully. All the French effected, was to dispossess the Archduke Leopold of the duchies of Cleves and Juliers, and to place the Marquis of Brandenburg, and the Duke of Newberg in the respective duchies which they claimed.

Did Sully remain in office?

No. The year after the accession of Louis he retired from court, and visited it very rarely. His upright and steady principle was not likely to find favour with Mary. He was succeeded by Concini, whom she created Maréchal d'Ancre. Sully died at his favourite villa of Villebon, at the age of eighty-two; having survived his royal patron thirty-one years.

What double marriage was proposed in the early part of this reign?

The Queen soon contrived to break every alliance formed by the late King. In unison with the Pope, she contracted her son, now on the throne, to Anne of Austria; whilst her daughter, Elizabeth, was betrothed to the Prince of Asturias, afterwards Philip IV., although the late King had promised her hand to the Prince of Savoy.

Did these alliances take place?

Yes. The King was united to Anne of Austria, at Bordeaux, when they had each attained the age

of fifteen: Princess Elizabeth at the same time was sent into Spain, as the affianced bride of the Prince. On account of the distracted state of the capital, the Queen did not enter Paris till some months after her marriage.

Whence arose these discords?

The favour shown to foreigners disgusted the old nobility of France. The Prince de Condé, who headed the disaffected party, was sent to the Bastile. At this time the Protestant forces withdrew from the King's service.

Who first roused the young King to exert himself in affairs of state?

Albert Luynes, who had been introduced to the King's notice, as a person expert in the management and training of birds. He pointed out the ambitious views of the Queen Mother, the insolence of Concini, and the approaching ruin of the country.

How did Louis receive this appeal?

He was forcibly struck with the truth of all Luynes had advanced, and promptly acted upon it. Concini was arrested, and shot on offering resistance: his wife, Galigai was hanged, and the Queen Mother exiled to Blois.

Did the Queen remain long in exile?

No. Fresh factions arose to oppose the new favourite, whom Louis had created Duke, Maréchal, and Peer of France. Mary was released by the Duke d'Epernon, and reconciled to the King. The remainder of her life was a constant scene of quarrel and reconciliation with her son. At last, the year before the death of Louis, she expired at Cologne, in a state of misery and neglect.

What very impolitic measure did the King take with regard to the province of Bearne ?

This territory had been united to France. The inhabitants were, almost without exception, Protestants : yet notwithstanding this, and that Louis had confirmed the Edict of Nantz, he enforced the Roman Catholic tenets, and wished to reclaim those churchlands which had been ceded to the Bearnese, by Henry IV.

How did this affair terminate ?

The Huguenots threw off their allegiance ; assembled at Rochelle, where the King, under the guidance of Luynes, had recourse to arms, laid siege to Montauban, and was obliged to abandon the enterprise. The Marquis de la Force, on the part of the Protestants, performed prodigies of valour. Shortly after this, Luynes fell into disgrace, and dying, was succeeded by Cardinal Richelieu, then Bishop of Luçon.

What was the character of the Cardinal Richelieu ?

He possessed the most splendid talents, and the most consummate hypocrisy. Through the influence of Concini he was introduced to the Queen, who after some time obtained for him the Cardinal's hat ; and on the death of Luynes he became prime minister. No ties of gratitude ever restrained Richelieu from advancing his own interest. Thus, though he owed all his aggrandizement to the Queen Mother, he abandoned her cause as soon as he found it inimical to his own advancement. No minister before his time had ever possessed such absolute sway : in fact, it was Richelieu who was the actual, Louis the nominal, ruler of France.

What were the three great points which Richelieu had ever in view ?

To humble the French nobility ; to exterminate the Huguenots ; and to curb the power of the house of Austria.

What marriage did he form in order to further these views ?

He entered into a treaty for the marriage of the King's youngest sister, Henrietta Maria, with Charles, Prince of Wales, afterwards Charles I. of England. The Duke of Buckingham was the great political rival of Richelieu.

How were the three sovereigns of France, England, and Spain governed at this time ?

By their respective ministers. Louis XIII. by Cardinal Richelieu ; James I. by the Duke of Buckingham ; and Philip IV. by the Count of Olivarez.

Relate the particulars of the siege of Rochelle.

Richelieu was an object of jealousy and aversion at court : many factions were formed against him, all of which found a friend in the Duke of Orleans. Whilst the Cardinal was occupied in subduing these, the Huguenots once more took up arms, and at last obtained a general amnesty, and a confirmation of the Edict of Nantz. On the infraction of these stipulations, the inhabitants of Rochelle commenced hostilities anew, and Richelieu determined on the destruction of the city.

How did he effect his purpose ?

By one of the greatest undertakings on record. The Rochellers, under the guidance of the Mayor, displayed such valour and firmness of conduct, that it was found impossible to subdue the place, so long as any succours could be procured by sea. Richelieu therefore caused a solid mole, of a mile in extent, to



be thrown across the harbour. All communication being thus cut off, the wretched inhabitants, after having endured, during a twelvemonth's siege, every species of deprivation and misery, of which human nature is capable, surrendered to the King.

What had the Duke of Buckingham to do in this affair ?

Buckingham had, without the consent of the British Parliament, promised Richelieu to assist him in the reduction of Rochelle, provided that Minister would enter actively into the war against Spain, in which England was at that time engaged. This treaty being obnoxious to the English, and Richelieu showing little intention of performing his part of the compact, James, King of England, declared war with France, and Buckingham was sent to the relief of Rochelle ; but all his military efforts betrayed a want of genius and capacity. The inhabitants, seeing the English approach, closed their gates, being unaware of their pacific intentions ; and error succeeded to error so rapidly, that Buckingham returned disgraced, and Rochelle was fated to destruction.

How did Richelieu endeavour to curb the house of Austria ?

By supporting that very Protestant cause which he had so vehemently opposed in France. In opposition to Ferdinand II., Emperor of Germany, he espoused the cause of the Dukes of Mantua and Montferrat ; and entered into a treaty with the renowned Gustavus Adolphus, King of Sweden, who was then actively engaged in humbling the power of Austria.

What was the end of Cardinal Richelieu ?

Various attempts had been made against his life ;

the most noted of which was that headed by Cinq Mars, du Thou, and the Duke of Orleans ; for which the two former suffered death, and the latter was banished. Richelieu died at Paris a very short time before the death of Louis.

Who was the great agitator of all domestic feuds during this reign ?

Gaston de Foix, Duke of Orleans, brother of the King. He was the inveterate enemy of Richelieu.

Whom did Louis marry ?

Anne of Austria, Infanta of Spain.

Name his children.

1. Louis the Dauphin, afterwards Louis XIV.

2. Philip, Duke of Anjou, afterwards Duke of Orleans.

Of what did Louis die ?

A lingering fever terminated his earthly career, five months after the death of his minister. He died at St. Germain en Laye, and was buried at St. Denis.

#### CHARACTER.

Personal courage seems to have been the most distinguishing attribute of Louis XIII. His education had been neglected, and his mind was naturally weak ; hence arose his indecision of character, and his indifference to the affairs of his kingdom. He loved retirement, and gladly yielded his authority into the hands of Richelieu, though he neither loved nor esteemed him.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1614. Treaty of St. Menchould, when all the Princes

who formed a league against the Concini's return to their allegiance.

1615. Marriage of the King.

1616. Death of Concini and Galligai.

1618. The French began to date from the birth of Christ: before this æra they dated from the creation.

Proposal for the marriage of Charles, Prince of Wales, with the Infanta.

1619. In England, Dr. Harvey finally discovers the circulation of the blood, which had been suggested by a French physician in 1553.

1620. Battle of Prague, in which Frederic V., Elector Palatine, is defeated.

1621. Olivarez causes Philip IV. on his accession, to take the title of "The Great."

1623. The Royal Gallery of the Luxembourg adorned by Rubens, with a splendid suite of paintings, in honour of Mary de Medici.

1626. Barometers invented by Torricelli, an Italian.

1628. Siege of Rochelle. Louis and his minister, Richelieu, command in person.

1630. Rupture between France and Germany. Richelieu compels the Emperor, Ferdinand II. to invest the Duke of Nevers with the duchies of Mantua and Montferrat. Cardinals, originally parish priests, receive the title of Eminence from Urban VIII.

1633. Battle of Lutzen.

1636. French East India Company established.

1639. The Queen Mother goes into England,

where she is favourably received by her son-in-law, Charles I.

1640. Julius Mazarin, Marquis de Monglat, first introduced to the favour of Cardinal Richelieu.

1642. July 3. Death of Mary de Medici. December 4. Death of Cardinal Richelieu.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—James I. Charles I.

*Spain.*—Philip III. Philip IV.

*The Empire.*—Rodolphus II. Mathias. Ferdinand II. Ferdinand III.

*The Papacy.*—Paul V. Gregory XV. Urban VIII.

### LOUIS XIV., LE GRAND MONARQUE.

WHEN did he ascend the throne?

In 1643; died 1715, aged seventy-seven, having reigned seventy-two years.

Who was Louis XIV.?

The eldest son of Louis XIII. and Anne of Austria. He succeeded his father when little more than four years old. His mother acted as Regent, and Cardinal Mazarin as prime minister.

Was this disposition of affairs in accordance with the last desires of Louis XIII.

No. That monarch had declared his consort Regent, and his brother, the Duke of Orleans, head of the Council; and so earnestly was he desirous that this should be carried into effect, that he caused the decree to be registered in Parliament; and both

the Queen and the Duke took an oath to observe its fulfilment.

How was this compact violated ?

The Queen Regent won over the Duke of Orleans, and the Prince de Condé, to her interest, and she was allowed to manage every thing at her pleasure.

To whom was the education of Louis confided ?

To the Cardinal Mazarin, who spared no pains in trying to cultivate his kingly powers ; whilst he encouraged every effeminate and trifling disposition in his brother, the Duke of Orleans.

In what war was France engaged on the demise of Louis XIII.

In a war with Spain ; and notwithstanding the Queen's near connexion with that court, she continued these hostilities during the Regency. Louis de Bourbon, Duke d'Enghein, headed the army in Flanders ; and defeated the Spaniards on the plains of Rocroi : their celebrated commander, Fuentis, was slain, and the city of Thionville taken.

What were the civil wars which disturbed France at this time ?

The wars of " La Fronde." Mazarin was unpopular as a minister, the treasury was nearly exhausted, and the methods taken to replenish it were unjust and arbitrary. The Parliament refused to register the edicts of Mazarin, and consequently several of the members were arrested, and the Chancellor roughly used. The populace took up arms, the streets were barricaded, and much bloodshed ensued. The court party were called Mazarins ; the popular faction opposed to them, Frondeurs.

Who was the first agitator of these disturbances ?



The Cardinal de Retz. He was a Florentine, and the first ecclesiastic who had excited civil discord, which had not a religious difference for its foundation. De Retz was a man of profligate life, and a lover of intrigue and cabal. In the last reign he had formed a plot for assassinating Cardinal Richelieu, and now hoped to rise on the ruin of either party.

What was the result of these civil wars ?

The court party, headed by Mazarin, were insulted, and the Queen Regent, with her sons, was compelled to leave Paris for St. Germain, where she was reduced to the greatest distress. The crown-jewels were pawned to procure necessities, the attendants were dismissed for want of money to maintain them, and the Parliament voted Mazarin an enemy to the country. He was compelled to fly, and took refuge, first at Liege, and afterwards at Cologne. Though absent, Mazarin still maintained his ascendancy over the mind of the Queen.

Who at length quelled the insurgents ?

The Queen prevailed on the Duke d'Enghein, now become Prince de Condé, (and distinguished by the title of the "Great Condé,") to head her forces. By his means the insurgents were dispersed, an amicable treaty was signed, and a general amnesty granted. Thus peace was restored for a short time.

Was this the termination of these civil wars ?

No. They did not terminate till 1653, having continued nearly five years. There was, at this time, neither consistency nor good faith amongst the French people, or their rulers. Condé not thinking his services sufficiently requited, took up the popular

cause. Gaston, Duke of Orleans, the King's uncle, followed his example ; whilst Marshal Turenne, with the Duke de Bouillon, his brother, seceded to the court party.

What were the other military achievements of the Prince de Condé ?

After having distinguished himself in Germany, against the Imperialists, he again rebelled : was exiled to his own territory of Guienne, where he took up arms afresh ; and Marshal Turenne was sent to oppose him. These great generals encountered each other several times ; once under the walls of Paris, where Condé triumphed, through the intrepidity of Mademoiselle de Montpensier, daughter of the Duke of Orleans, who fired the cannon from the Bastile on the royal forces. Condé afterwards went into the Low Countries, and entered into the service of Spain.

Did Condé continue in active service ?

Yes. On the part of Spain he retook Barcelona, Casale, Gravelines, and Dunkirk, but the latter place was retaken at the Battle of Dunes, and, by the policy of Cardinal Mazarin, given to the English, under Cromwell. When peace was concluded between France and Spain, by the treaty of the Pyrennees, it was stipulated on the part of Philip, that a full pardon should be granted to the Prince de Condé ; which being done, he returned to the service of his native country, and again distinguished himself by his brilliant exploits. In 1676 Condé retired to Chantilly. He died at Fontainebleau.

What was the state of England in the early part of this reign ?

It was distracted in a tenfold degree by the horrors of civil war. In 1649 the unfortunate Charles I. lost his life on the scaffold. Henrietta Maria, his consort, daughter of Henry IV. and aunt of the present King, with her daughter, afterwards Duchess of Orleans, fled to her native country for protection; whilst the heir apparent wandered a wretched outcast in Holland.

What were the first acts of Louis on attaining his majority?

He was obliged to conciliate his subjects by dismissing Mazarin; but so fluctuating was popular favour at this time, that the minister was, ere long, recalled at the desire of the people, and enjoyed for a time the favour of the King and the nation.

What treaty terminated this first war in Spain?

That of the Pyrennees, which has been before mentioned. Here it was determined that Louis should marry the Infanta, only daughter of Philip IV. by Elizabeth, daughter of Henry IV. Cardinal Mazarin had, previous to this affair, endeavoured to bring about an alliance with the Princess of Savoy; not from political motives, but for his family interest; nay, so ambitious was Mazarin, that he even projected a match between the King and one of his nieces, nine of whom he placed within the precincts of the court, in hopes that one of them might attract the young King's affections.

How did Louis form an alliance with Cromwell?

In a disgraceful manner. To purchase his friendship, which he believed to be a politic measure, he meanly consented to expel the exiled members of the Royal Family of England from his dominions,

notwithstanding that they were nearly connected with him, and had besides fled to his court for protection.

Who was Colbert?

The patron and support of commerce, and the friend of the arts, introduced to the notice of Louis, by Mazarin. Upon the death of the Cardinal, the King resolved to take the administration into his own hands, and Colbert was secretly employed to examine, every night, the state ordinances, which had been presented to the sovereign at the morning levee. By his means the fraud and mismanagement of Fouquet were discovered, and the finances were placed on an admirable footing, both for order and economy. Through the abilities of Colbert, in the financial department, Louis became possessed of greater resources than any other monarch had enjoyed. He was the steady friend of the Huguenots; who having lost all weight in the government, applied themselves to manufactures; and by this means, during the life-time of Colbert, obtained opulence and consideration.

How did Louis, in two remarkable instances, show the exalted opinion which he entertained of his own dignity and weight in the scale of empire?

First, in London, when his ambassador, the Count d'Estrades, was denied precedence by the Spanish envoy, an altercation, and even blows ensued. Louis exacted and obtained public reparation from his father-in-law, Philip IV.; and of this apology, which was made in presence of all the foreign embassies, he caused each ambassador to transmit an account to his sovereign. Secondly. When his minister, at Rome, was insulted by some of the Pope's

guards, Louis was not satisfied with the mere personal punishment of the aggressors, and the banishment of Marie Chigi, the Pope's brother, who was supposed to have excited the soldiery ; but he also caused a pyramid to be erected in Rome, with an inscription, setting forth the offence and its expiation.

Upon what grounds did Louis obtain the city of Dunkirk from the English ?

His brother, the Duke d'Anjou, (afterwards Duke of Orleans,) had married Henrietta, daughter of Charles I. of England ; but the finances were in so low a state, from the long continuance of the civil wars, that her brother, Charles II., then on the throne, had not the means of paying his sister's dower ; he therefore sold Dunkirk to the French for four hundred thousand crowns.

Of what breach of solemn promise was Louis guilty ?

On his marriage with Maria Theresa, he solemnly resigned all claims to the Spanish succession ; yet on the death of Philip IV. who left an infant son, by a second marriage, Louis claimed the duchy of Brabant in right of his Queen, and enforced his claim by an immense army, headed by the first generals of the age, who carried war into the Netherlands ; and after the interval of a year, a treaty of peace was signed at Aix la Chapelle, on the most advantageous terms for France.

Did Louis take the field himself, in any of the numerous actions with which his reign abounds ?

Yes ; in several. Having purchased the alliance of England, he entered on a war with the Dutch, in which he engaged personally ; and under his re-



nowned generals, Condé, Turenne, and Luxembourg, his arms were crowned with success. The provinces of Overijssel, Nimeguen, and Guelders, with more than forty cities, surrendered to Turenne in the course of a few months ; and the Dutch were compelled to sue for peace. Here the Prince of Orange, afterwards William III. of England, made his first campaign.

Did Louis grant that peace for which the Dutch entreated ?

No. Louis, though a mighty conqueror, was an oppressive tyrant, and refused to treat with Holland on any reasonable terms ; upon which almost every power of Europe resented his ambitious and overbearing spirit ; and the Dutch were joined by the Emperor, the King of Spain, the Marquis of Brandenburg, and, finally, by the King of England.

Had not Louis four armies in the field at one time ?

Yes. One in Spain, under the Prince de Condé ; another in Germany, under Marshal Turenne ; a third on the frontiers of Roussillon, headed by the Count de Schomberg ; whilst Louis himself headed his forces in Franche Comté. In fact, though the greater part of the Continent was opposed to him, the arms of Louis were triumphant, both by sea and land ; and in 1678 he dictated the peace of Nimeguen.

What renowned general died before the termination of this war ?

Marshal Turenne. He was shot in action at Saltzbach, whilst opposed to the celebrated Montecuculi. Turenne was the greatest general of his age. It was

said of him, "that his conquests were like himself, simple and unostentatious." The only blot upon his memory, is his cruelty in the Palatinate. With Turenne the glory of the French arms disappeared.

What is the indelible stain on the life of Louis XIV?

His revocation of the Edict of Nantz, and his severe persecution of the Protestants, which brought with it its own punishment. Louis had only been restrained by his virtuous minister, Colbert, from commencing this outrage long before; and he now determined, that as France had but one monarch, she should have but one religion. He therefore decreed, that the Protestant ministers should be banished, their congregations forbidden to follow them; children were torn from their parents, to be initiated in the doctrines of the Catholic church, and premiums were offered to every parish which would give up twelve of these victims. They were hunted, even in the woods and forests, like wild beasts. Yet in spite of the sanguinary prohibition against their escape, it is computed that many thousand families emigrated into England, Germany, and Holland, bearing with them their wealth and ingenuity.

What was the end effected by this?

The refugees, besides weakening the power of France by such a defection, excited all the Princes of Europe in their cause. At the head of the Union, to oppose Louis, was the Prince of Orange, whose powerful mind readily embraced any means of humbling the proud spirit of France.

What English Prince was now a refugee in France?

James II., a rigid Catholic; he had been com-

pelled to abdicate the throne, and Louis received him with every mark of kindness and sympathy. After a nine years' war, Louis acknowledged William's title as King of England. This was the treaty of Ryswick.

What occasioned the last Spanish war ?

Charles II. of Spain dying without issue, left his crown to the Duke of Anjou, second son of the Dauphin. There were three competitors for that throne, the Emperor Leopold, the Duke of Bavaria, and Louis ; each of these had entered into a treaty of partition, before the death of Charles ; but Louis now determined to be guided by the will of the deceased ; and the Duke of Anjou was proclaimed King, under the title of Philip V.

What success attended the French arms ?

Hostilities begun in Italy, where the French were beaten by Prince Eugene. In Germany, Louis at first triumphed, but afterwards suffered a signal defeat from the Duke of Marlborough at Hochstad. Again, in the Low Countries, the forces of the allies triumphed, under those renowned generals. Louis was at last obliged to sue for that peace, which he had so often refused to the other potentates of Europe.

What were the domestic troubles of Louis towards the close of his eventful life ?

The successive deaths of three Dauphins ; his son, grandson, and great grandson. The only son of Louis, the first Dauphin, died of the small-pox, a disease at that time not known in France : his grandson, the Duke of Burgundy, the second Dauphin, (a Prince of great promise, the pupil of Fenelon, for

whom he wrote his *Telemachus*,) died of the same disorder, together with his consort, the amiable Adelaide of Savoy ; and a third Dauphin, great grandson of Louis, and son of the preceding, died about the same time.

What has this reign been called ?

The Augustan age of France. By the French it is designated, "*Le siècle de Louis quatorze*." As Statesmen, Colbert, Letellier, Louvois, and Desmaretz, are the most noted : as Authors, historic, poetic, and dramatic, Bochart, Bossuet, Boileau, Corneille, the Daciers, Fenelon, La Fontaine, Moliere, Montesquieu, Maintenon, Racine, St. Pierre, and Sevigné : as Painters, Poussin, Le Sueur, Le Brun, and Le Moine : as Sculptors, Saracin, Le Gros, Costrou, and Giradon.

Who was Madame de Maintenon ?

Frances d'Aubigné, a descendant of the great Sully. When only fourteen, she married the poet Scarron : on his death she was taken into the establishment of Louis XIV., and became governess to his children. The suavity of her temper, and the elegance of her manners, gained the affections of the monarch ; and after the death of Maria Theresa, he married her, though the union was never publicly avowed. Madame de Maintenon survived the King four years, and died at the age of ninety, at St. Cyr, near Versailles, an establishment which she had founded.

Name the consort of Louis XIV.

Maria Theresa, Infanta of Spain, daughter of Philip IV.

Where did Louis die ?

At Versailles, after a reign of seventy-two years, the longest in the annals of France. A mortification in the leg accelerated the death of Louis ; but he must have been worn out with the cares of war and politics. His body was buried at St. Denis, his heart in the Jesuit's college at Paris.

Mention his issue.

Louis the Dauphin, who died before his father, and five other children, who died in infancy.

#### CHARACTER.

Louis possessed every advantage of person and manner, that could adorn his exalted station. He was dignified, graceful, courteous, and polite, in an eminent degree ; personally brave, and indefatigable in his attention to business. Though unlearned himself, he admired and encouraged learning in others, as the host of literary men, who shed lustre on his reign, abundantly proves. But with all these claims on our admiration, Louis has but few on our esteem. He was a tyrannical despot, a cruel persecutor, and a violator of his word ; conquest and dominion were his objects, and provided he obtained these, he was little scrupulous as to the means employed.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1648. Civil wars of La Fronde, so called from the young men by whom the hostilities were commenced, being Frondeurs, or Slingers. This term Frondeur was also applied ironically, from the idea that the forces of the insurgents were few, and their aim only mischief.



1649. Execution of Charles I. of England.

1658. Serious indisposition of the King at Calais.

1660. Marriage of the King in the island of Pheasants: a river island of the Bidassoa.

1661. Death of Mazarin. Disgrace of Fouquet. Colbert made Comptroller General.

1664. The canal of Languedoc, the façade of the Louvre, and the palace of Versailles begun by Louis, under the auspices, and through the economy of his minister, Colbert.

1665. Manufacture of the tapestry of the Gobelins; and plate-glass first introduced into France. Sale of Dunkirk to the French by Charles II.

1666. Death of the Queen Mother, Anne of Austria.

1668. Triple alliance of Holland, England, and Sweden, against France. Peace of Aix la Chapelle.

1671. Louis founds the "Hospital des Invalids," for decayed and infirm soldiers.

1683. Death of the Queen Consort, Maria Theresa.

1684. Revocation of the Edict of Nantz. The King marries privately, the widow of Scarron; endows her with the estate of Maintenon, which name she takes, from the time of her marriage.

1693. Institution of the order of St. Louis.

1697. The treaty of Ryswick. France acknowledges William of Orange as King of England.

1698. Partition treaty for the kingdom of Spain signed in Paris.

1700. Charles II. of Spain dies, leaving his crown to Philip, Duke of Anjou, grandson of Louis XIV.

1704. Defeat of the French and Bavarians at Blenheim, by Marlborough and Prince Eugene.

1706. The battle of Ramilies lost through the mismanagement of the French general, Villeroi, who had succeeded Turenne.

1709. The most severe frost ever known in France: the strongest waters frozen, even in warm rooms. Vines, olives, and all fruit-trees, perished; vegetation destroyed; fears of approaching famine, with other troubles in the country, compel Louis to sue for peace.

1711, and two following years. Death of the three Dauphins; from want of knowledge in physic, supposed to have been taken off by poison.

1713. Treaty of Utrecht, by which Philip's title to the crown of Spain is acknowledged, and Louis, for himself and the house of Bourbon, for ever renounces all claim to that kingdom. Gibraltar and Minorca confirmed to England. Pope Clement XI., on the application of Louis XIV., publishes the celebrated Edict, or Bull Unigenitus, in support of the Jesuits, in opposition to the Jansenists. The dissensions of these two sects excite the most fearful contests and tumults.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—Charles I. Cromwell. Charles II. James II. William and Mary. Anne. George I.

*Spain.*—Philip IV. Charles II. Philip V.

*The Empire.*—Ferdinand III. Leopold I. Joseph I. Charles VI.

*The Papacy.*—Urban VIII. Innocent X. Alexander VII. Clement IX. Clement X. Innocent

XI. Alexander VIII. Innocent XII. Clement XI.

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### LOUIS XV., LE BIEN AIME.

WHEN did he ascend the throne?

In 1715; died 1774, in the sixty-fifth year of his age, after a reign of fifty-nine years.

Who was Louis XV.?

The second son of Louis, Duke of Burgundy, then Dauphin, and Adelaide of Savoy: he succeeded his great-grandfather, Louis XIV., when only five years old.

Who was appointed Regent?

The Queen Mother being dead, Philip, Duke of Orleans, his cousin, nephew to the late King, was suffered to rule the nation as Regent, contrary to the last will of Louis XIV., who had appointed a council of Regency, composed of the late ministers. The care of the King's person was entrusted to the Duke de Maine.

How had Louis XV. been educated?

The Regent committed him to the care of Marshal Villeroy, the personal friend and confidant of the late King. Cardinal Fleury was his confessor and instructor. This prelate was a man of sound and virtuous principle, but of a mild and retiring nature; the young King became devotedly attached to him; and it is supposed that much of the timidity and irresolution in this monarch's character, is to be traced to the influence of example in his early years.

What was the character of the Regent?

The Duke of Orleans possessed good abilities, had they been properly directed, was a lover of the sciences, and had many requisites for governing well; but his total want of religious principles, and his profligate habits, caused him to be looked upon with mistrust and suspicion. Many of his worst failings may be attributed to his education, under Dubois a man of infamous life and manners; and some of his worst actions have their origin in his unfortunate marriage; a connexion, which was forced upon him by his uncle, the late King.

Who was the political enemy of the Regent?

Cardinal Alberoni, the Spanish minister, who persuaded his sovereign, Philip V., to renew his claim to the French crown, which he had solemnly renounced: to support this claim, he sent a Spanish fleet to the coast of Bretagne, which the Regent soon dispersed. Philip pretended not to claim the sceptre of France at this period, but only in the event of its present monarch's decease, in order fully to oppose any latent view which the Duke of Orleans might have upon the sovereign power for himself.

How did this affair terminate?

France soon became weary of war, and would fain have remained tranquil. Upon the disgrace of Cardinal Alberoni, which happened shortly after the commencement of the war, Philip once again renounced, for himself and his descendants, all pretensions to the crown of France, and joined the quadruple alliance which had been formed some time before, between France, England, Holland, and Austria.

What was the Mississippi scheme, introduced into France during the Regency?

A Scotchman of the name of Law, on visionary speculation, engaged the greater part of the French nation to exchange their money for paper currency; the money disappeared, the paper remained, and thousands of families and individuals were ruined. This speculation greatly resembled our South-sea scheme, which took place in England very shortly after.

When did Louis attain his majority?

Nominally at the age of thirteen. He desired that the Duke of Orleans should remain at the head of affairs, which he agreed to do, but that very year he died. During the time of his Regency, the Duke appears, in a great measure, to have retrieved his character. He died regretted, both by Prince and people.

Whom did the young King choose for his prime minister?

M. le Duc de Condé, a Prince of the house of Bourbon. His first measure was to set aside the projected marriage of the King with the Infanta, a child of six years of age, and to contract him to Maria Leczinska, daughter of Stanislaus, ex-King of Poland, who had taken refuge in the French territories. This marriage was celebrated almost immediately. The administration of Bourbon lasted but a short time: the King dismissed him, declaring that he would no longer act under the influence of a minister: a mere pretence to place Cardinal Fleury actually, if not nominally, at the head of affairs.



What French literary characters visited England during the minority of Louis XV?

Voltaire and Montesquieu. The military genius of England had already been established on the continent, by the brilliant victories of Marlborough; and France now became sensible of her literary fame, in the works of Locke and Newton.

What occasioned the commencement of war in this reign?

The election of a King of Poland. Stanislaus Leczinska had been dethroned by the Czar Peter, after the battle of Pultowa, who placed Augustus, Elector of Saxony, in possession of his kingdom. The dethroned monarch had taken refuge in France, and his daughter, as we have before seen, was united to the reigning monarch. Upon the death of Augustus, Louis wished to have reinstated his father-in-law, Stanislaus, who was extremely popular in Poland. The Emperor, Charles VI., supported the cause of the Elector, and the son of the deceased monarch was proclaimed King, under the title of Augustus III.

Was the French nation averse to war?

No. Many years of peace was more than the ever-restless spirit of the French could bear: they entered into a war with avidity, though they met with little encouragement, and received but scanty supplies from the minister, Fleury.

What was the success of the war?

Louis, being joined by the Kings of Spain and Sardinia, determined to chastise the Emperor. The Duke of Berwick and Marshal Villers were dispatched with forces into Italy, and to the Rhine;

and the two Sicilies were conquered with little opposition. Stanislaus resigned his claims to Poland, and received the Duchy of Lorraine for life ; whilst the Duke of Lorraine was compensated with the promise of the Grand Duchy of Tuscany, which he was to inherit on the death of the reigning Duke.

How long did the war continue ?

Two years ; when it was at last terminated by the treaty of Vienna, and the nation enjoyed a five years' peace.

What two celebrated characters appeared on the theatre of Europe at this time ?

Frederick the Great, King of Prussia, and Maria Theresa, by the death of her father, Charles VI., now become Empress of Germany, and Queen of Hungary.

Was not her succession the cause of great contentions amongst the several powers of Europe ?

Yes. Notwithstanding it had been secured by the Pragmatic sanction, Charles Albert, the Elector of Bavaria, Augustus III., King of Poland, and Frederick the Great of Prussia, all put in claims for the whole, or part of these German dominions. France espoused the cause of the Elector ; and in the year 1742, two years after the decease of Charles VI., the Elector was proclaimed Emperor, under the title of Charles VII.

What became of Maria Theresa ?

Persecuted by France and Bavaria, she quitted Vienna, and threw herself on the protection of her Hungarian subjects, who received her with open arms, resolved to conquer or die in her defence. England, her only ally, now took up arms in her

cause; and the reigning monarch, George II., defeated the combined forces at Dettingen. Just before this engagement, Frederick, to secure Silesia, the German territory to which he had all along laid claim, made a separate peace with the Empress Queen.

How was peace restored to Europe?

In 1745, Louis gained the battle of Fontenoy against the English, Dutch, and Austrians; and aided by his celebrated General, the Maréchal Saxe, made himself master of the greater part of Dutch Brabant, Ghent, Ostend, and Brussels. In Italy the French were decidedly unfortunate; but Charles VII. dying, Francis, Duke of Lorraine, Grand Duke of Tuscany, consort of Maria Theresa, was elected Emperor, and a general peace was signed at Aix la Chapelle; the Pragmatic sanction was again ratified, and the Empress Queen placed on the throne of her ancestors.

When did Louis acquire the title of "Le bien aimé?"

During the war in Flanders, Louis was attacked with a severe indisposition at Metz, on his journey up the Rhine. On the prospect of approaching dissolution, he was led to repentance for various errors of his past life; which, together with the universal joy manifested on his recovery, caused him to be styled by his subjects "Le bien aimé."

When did Cardinal Fleury die?

In the year 1743, in the midst of the Austrian war. He had always opposed the violation of the Pragmatic sanction, as a dishonourable measure; but his advice was disregarded. One of the greatest

defects of Fleury's administration, was the total neglect of the French marine.

Did not war arise between France and England ?

Yes. Louis had trespassed on the British settlements in North America ; war was the consequence, and the French were defeated at the siege of Quebec, by the celebrated General Wolfe. Guadaloupe, and several other West India Islands, were also taken by the English. Pondicherry, in the eastern hemisphere, with other French territories there, surrendered ; and these losses, together with the dispersion of a French fleet in the Mediterranean, made Louis sue for peace.

What loss did the French sustain at the battle of Minden ?

They resigned the Electorate of Hanover, which they had taken from England a short time before. In this engagement, the Marquis de la Fayette, one of their commanders, was slain. He was father of the La Fayette who has distinguished himself in the Revolution of 1830.

What was the family compact ?

A union between the two branches of the Bourbons in France and Spain, by which the Kings engaged, "That the subjects of each country should enjoy the same privileges ; that they would enter into the same wars, both offensive and defensive ; make peace together, and so act, as if the two kingdoms formed but one and the same power." The great end they had in view, was the humiliation of Great Britain.

What was the first act of this union ?

The Bourbons immediately called on Joseph, King

of Portugal, to make war on England, his old ally. Upon the monarch's refusal, Louis and Charles turned their arms on Portugal, but with the aid of the British forces, Joseph speedily drove the enemy from his kingdom, and a treaty of peace was signed at Paris.

Who was the Duke de Choiseul ?

He was for a long time prime minister during this reign. His great object was to re-establish the naval power of France. He was the inveterate enemy of England. Choiseul brought about the marriage of the Dauphin with Maria Antoinette, daughter of Maria Theresa of Germany.

Who was the consort of Louis XV ?

Maria Leczinska, daughter of Stanislaus ?

Of what did Louis die ?

Of the small-pox : his constitution, weakened by intemperance and excess, was unable to resist disease. He expired at Versailles, and was buried at St. Denis.

Name his children.

1. Louis, who died in infancy.
2. Louis, Dauphin, father to Louis XVI. ; died before his father.
3. Maria Louisa, married to Philip, Infant of Spain.
4. Anne Henriette.
5. Maria Adelaide.
6. Victoire.
7. Sophie.
8. Louisa Maria, a nun, and two other daughters, who died in childhood.

Whom did Louis the Dauphin marry ?



1. Maria Theresa, Infanta of Spain. 2. Maria Josepha, Princess of Savoy.

Mention his issue.

Two sons and a daughter, who died young.

Louis Augustus, afterwards Louis XVI.

Louis Stanislaus Xavier, Count of Provence, afterwards Louis XVIII.

Charles Philip, Count d'Artois, afterwards Charles X.

Adelaide Clotilda, married to the Prince of Piedmont.

Elizabeth Philippine, who perished by the guillotine during the revolution.

#### CHARACTER.

Louis had naturally an amiable disposition, but he had not strength of mind to form virtuous principles. He indulged in every species of luxury and sensuality, and lavished those sums which the lives of so many of his people had purchased, on the indulgence of his own inclinations, or the gratification of his most unworthy favourites. Though he had once been styled "*Le bien aimé*," he died unregretted by the nation.

#### REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1719. The Mississippi scheme in France, and the South-sea scheme in England.

1720. The plague rages fatally at Marseilles; one half of the inhabitants supposed to have perished. Bishop Belzunce "*Marseilles' good Bishop*," endears himself to the people by his charity and philanthropy.

1721. Conspiracy in England in favour of the Pretender.

1724. The Infanta, who had been brought over to France as a consort for Louis XV., is sent back. Marriage of the King with Maria Leczinska.

1731. Guarantee of the Pragmatic sanction.

1733. Death of Augustus II., King of Poland, causes a fresh war on the continent.

1740. Death of the Emperor Charles VI., without male issue.

1743. Battle of Dettingen, in which George II. commands in person.

1745. Battle of Fontenoy, gained by the French under Louis XV.

1748. Treaty of peace signed at Aix la Chapelle between France and England.

1757. *Damiens*, a fanatic, attempts the life of the King. He is executed with an accumulation of torture, that would have disgraced the savage nations of antiquity. General discontent of the nation at the conduct of the sovereign, and at the mal-administration of affairs.

1759. French defeated at Quebec in North America by the English, under General Wolfe. Deaths of the French and English commanders, the Marquis de Montcalm, and General Wolfe.

1764. First suppression of the Jesuits: they are banished France.

1768. Corsica ceded to France by the Genoese. The natives, under the brave Paoli, refuse to submit.

1770. Marriage of the Dauphin, afterwards Louis XVI., with Maria Antoinette. Owing to a dreadful crowd in the Rue Royale at Paris, to witness the

grand display of fireworks on the occasion, fifty persons are trampled to death.

1773. Pope Clement XIV. (Ganganella) finally suppresses the order of Jesuits, for their political intrigues.

Ecole Militaire and School of Medicine founded by Louis. Place Louis Quinze built.

#### CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England.*—George I. George II. George III.

*Spain.*—Philip V. Ferdinand VI. Charles III.

*The Empire.*—Charles VI. Charles VII. Francis I. and Maria Theresa. Joseph II.

*The Papacy*—Clement XI. Innocent XIII. Benedict XIII. Clement XII. Benedict XIV. Clement XIII. Clement XIV.

### LOUIS XVI. LE DESIRÉ.

WHEN did he ascend the throne ?

In 1774 ; died 1793, aged thirty-nine, having reigned eighteen years.

Who was Louis XVI ?

He was the eldest surviving son of Louis the Dauphin, by his second consort, Maria Josepha of Saxony ; he succeeded his grandfather in the twentieth year of his age.

How had he been educated ?

His father, who has sometimes been designated “ the devout Dauphin,” entrusted his youth to the care of the Duke Vauguyon, a man of austere manners, and severe in the performance of his religious duties. Though Louis was deeply imbued with sen-

timents of true piety, his life had been secluded, and he had neither cultivated his mind with literature, nor turned his thoughts to the consideration of state affairs. Thus he was not only from his youth and inexperience, but from a defective education, totally unfit for the exalted station which he was called to fill.

What was the first act of Louis ?

To recal Maurepas, who had been exiled twenty-three years ; to banish the unworthy and obnoxious favourites of the late King, and to restore the Parliament. By these acts Louis became extremely popular.

Who was the Count de Maurepas ?

He had been minister of the marine department under Louis XV., and exiled during the struggles between the clergy and the parliament. He is said to have been particularly recommended to the notice of Louis, in some written instructions which his father, the Dauphin left, to be delivered to him on his accession. Turgot was the minister of finance.

In what state was the kingdom at the accession of Louis XVI ?

The finances were in a dreadful state of disorder, and the minds of the people discontented, and ripe for revolt. The marine alone was in a flourishing condition.

What event happened in the year following the accession of Louis XVI ?

A fearful scarcity caused a sedition in Paris, which extended to the provinces. Turgot became obnoxious to the people, and the King yielded his able and efficient minister. Here Maria Antoinette has, by

some historians, been accused of having used her influence with the King, to the prejudice of Turgot, as it is allowed she was always opposed to him.

What was the first hostile engagement of Louis ?

A war with Great Britain. That country was at this time at variance with her American colonies : the French had all along coincided with the Americans, and in the year 1778, they acknowledged their independence of the mother-country, and entered into a treaty with them : a war between France and England was the result. It is said, that the King was always opposed to the measure, that he refused to sign a treaty which countenanced a rebellious people ; but Louis was weak, and easy of persuasion, and, in an evil hour, he assented to the measure. In America, the French became fascinated by republican principles, which greatly promoted and accelerated the approaching revolution in their own country. Spain was the ally of France.

Who was at the head of affairs in France at this time ?

Monsieur Neckar, a Swiss Protestant, a man of high intellectual and commercial reputation. Being a Protestant, he was secluded from a seat in council. As his financial schemes were often discussed in that assembly, he urged his admission there, and upon a refusal, resigned his office. Neckar's plan of raising money was ruinous, yet it was continued by his successor, M. Calonne.

How long did the war with Great Britain continue ?

Five years. The contests were chiefly naval. The fleets of France and Spain covered the Channel, but



no blow of importance was struck there. Lord Rodney defeated the combined forces at Gibraltar ; but in America the French were victorious over Lord Cornwallis, at New York. In 1783, Great Britain acknowledged the independence of the colonies, and peace was signed between France and England.

Was this peace well received in France ?

It was. The treasury was drained by the expenses of a fruitless war ; the nation was dissatisfied with its internal policy ; and the evils of the people were augmented by the exemption of the nobles and clergy from taxation.

How did M. Calonne, then at the head of affairs, seek to redress these grievances ?

He raised money on the same plan as M. Neckar had done ; but called for an assembly of the Notables, which met at Versailles.

What did this assembly effect ?

M. Calonne proposed the taxation of the nobles and clergy. His measure was rejected with vehemence, and he was obliged to resign his office. He was succeeded by M. de Brienne, archbishop of Thoulouse.

Why was the King averse to the measure of convoking the States General, which the people so strenuously demanded ?

The treasury was in so exhausted a state, the public grievances so many, and the people now so fully capable of judging and discussing affairs of government, that both King and nobles dreaded the investigations and altercations which would necessarily take place at these meetings. Money however was wanted ; loans were no longer possible,

and M. de Brienne determined to raise it by a royal edict.

How was this edict received ?

The Parliament refused to register it, and no decree even of the sovereign was considered a law till it had passed the Parliament. The time for payment of the dividends arrived, but there was no specie to meet the demand. Symptoms of revolt and general disaffection were plainly visible, and the dismissal of Brienne was hailed with joy. M. Neckar was recalled, and the nation now looked to him for support and a redress of grievances.

Who was the mover of the disturbances in the beginning of the revolution ?

The Duke of Orleans. A tumult arose in Paris a few days before the meeting of the States General supposed to have been excited by the Duke : several hundred persons lost their lives, and the precincts of the Palais Royal, the residence of the Orleans' family, became the rendezvous of the idle and the disaffected.

Who was this Duke of Orleans ?

He was the grandson of that Duke of Orleans who was Regent during the minority of Louis XV. ; a man of the most profligate and dissolute habits, equally deficient in talent and principle. When he pretended to espouse the cause of liberty, he was secretly plotting the overthrow of the monarchy for his private ends. All his power lay in his wealth, which was immense. During the latter part of the revolutionary troubles, he was designated Philippe Egalité. He was father of the present King of the French, Louis Philippe.

When did the meeting of the States-General take place, and what was the relative proportion of its component parts?

On the 5th of May, 1789, at Versailles: they had not been convened since the year 1664. It consisted of the nobility, clergy, and citizens, three distinct bodies, each of which deliberated in a separate chamber; and when their debates were concluded, they met in one common hall: any resolution agreed to by two of these bodies, became a law. The number of representatives was eleven hundred and forty-five, of which the third class of citizens, or, as they are generally called, *Le Tiers Etat*, formed one half. Here Louis showed himself ardently desirous of conciliating his people; but his want of mind and talent, were also apparent. The celebrated Mirabeau first came into notice at this time.

When the States-General, or, as it was now called, the National Assembly, was summoned, at the desire of the nation, why did not the popular discords cease?

The *Tiers Etat*, the most powerful of the three estates, demanded that the nobles should come to their hall to carry on the debates, the clergy having already joined them; and this, till the King assured them that his person was in danger, they refused to do. The city of Paris too, was, by the King's orders, invested with foreign troops: several regiments were stationed in the environs of Paris and Versailles; and besides this, Necker, the decided favourite of the *Tiers Etat*, was dismissed.

How did the Revolution begin?

By the mob attacking the Bastille, the state-prison

of France. The governor and deputy governor were murdered, and their heads borne through the streets of Paris in triumph. The King and royal family were at Versailles at this epoch, and, on hearing an account of the insurrection, the monarch, in alarm, immediately withdrew all the troops in the neighbourhood. He was obliged to sign a declaration of rights, by which all but the nominal power of the crown was abolished.

Did the royal party continue at Versailles?

No : the King first left Versailles for Paris, where he was well received by the people, accepted the tri-coloured flag of the Revolution, sanctioned the proceedings of the party in power, and was permitted to return to his family. Mirabeau having artfully circulated the report of a conspiracy to carry off the King, Louis recalled a regiment of regular troops; and a fête being given to them by the Gardes du Corps, then at Versailles, the Queen is said to have excited the hostile feelings of the military against the patriots; insurrections in Paris became general, the populace marched to Versailles, and, with the cruelty of a mock triumph, conducted the royal party to Paris.

Why did not the military attempt a rescue?

The regulars joined the popular party: three hundred body guards was all the force on which Louis had to depend. La Fayette commanded the rabble, who had marched to Versailles, and did the utmost in his power to preserve peace, but in vain : however, on the return of the King and his family to Paris, the monarch again reconciled himself to his subjects, by voluntarily giving his consent to the new

order of things, and twenty months elapsed in comparative tranquillity; for either by menace or entreaty, La Fayette had procured the absence of the rebellious Duke of Orleans. Still, however, the King and royal family were watched and guarded with suspicion; decrees were daily passing the assembly, subversive of the principles of monarchy, and emigration increased to a great extent.

On what occasion was the Duke of Orleans recalled?

On the final resignation of M. Neckar, when the Gardes du Corps was abolished, and the National Guard substituted in its place.

What was the political character of Mirabeau?

He had been a strenuous supporter of reformation, particularly amongst the clergy, though he never consented to the violent measures which were now in agitation against that body. He was a man of first-rate talents, made president of the National Assembly; and whilst he was regarded with consideration by the people, he endeavoured to uphold the cause of royalty; disgusted, it is supposed, by the democratic principles of the very constitution which he had assisted to form. He strongly advised the King's leaving Paris for the provinces.

Why did not Louis follow this advice?

Unfortunately for Louis, Mirabeau's death deranged his plans: his scheme for emigration was delayed too long; and, when it did take place, it was attended with disastrous consequences.

Relate the particulars of the flight from Paris.

In the month of June, 1791, Louis, his consort, Madame Elizabeth, the King's sister, with the Dau-



phin and Princess, left the palace of the Thuilleries, on their road to Montmedi, a frontier-town on the borders of Germany, where general Bouillé had formed a camp of several faithful regiments. Owing to some mismanagement, the journey did not begin till the night after that on which it had been planned, and expected by Bouillé; so that the detachments which were to have been posted on the road, were not in waiting when the fugitives arrived. At the bridge of St. Menchould the King was recognised by the post-master; and when the royal party reached Varennes, whither the rumour of their flight had preceded them, they were arrested, and in eight days brought back to Paris.

How were the sovereigns received in the capital?

All suspicions of the King's fidelity to the constitution were confirmed by his flight, and he now lost the love of his people, who, amidst all the preceding troubles of the revolution, had never wavered in personal regard to the monarch. The National Assembly suspended the King from his functions, whilst the Jacobins prepared a petition for dethroning him, which was publicly exposed for signature in the Champs de Mars; his flight was declared an abdication, and clamours were loud in favour of a republic.

What followed?

La Fayette was sent with troops to quell the tumults which had now risen to extremes. Several hundreds of the Jacobins fell, and the rest dispersed. This act of the Assembly was unpopular; the nation was urgent for its dissolution, and after the King had accepted the constitution, (a most impolitic measure,)

it voluntarily dissolved itself; each member having previously taken an oath to form no part in the next, or any following Assembly.

Who were the Jacobins?

Men without principle, whose aim was to subvert every form of government, and every ordinance which tended to the well being of the state. They were alike enemies to aristocracy, wealth, and talent.

Of whom was the second Assembly composed?

Of the friends of the new constitution, who were denominated Feuillans, of the Independents, and of the Jacobins. The former National Assembly had been termed the Constitutional, and this took the name of the Legislative Assembly. Here all the King's entreaties for the better regulation of affairs were treated with contempt.

What was the conduct of the different European powers with regard to France at this time?

Alarmed at the spirit of revolution which menaced such fearful results, Francis II. now Emperor of Germany, with Frederick William, King of Prussia, prepared for war: and the Duke of Brunswick, at the head of the combined forces, issued a proclamation, threatening destruction to the city of Paris, if the slightest violence was offered to their lawful monarch.

What was the effect of this ordinance?

The most fatal. The King's doom was now decreed. On the 10th of August the infuriated mob attacked the Thuilleries, murdered the Swiss guards, and most of the attendants of the royal household, and committed the royal family prisoners to the Temple. In the mean time the combined forces entered France,

took the towns of Longwy and Verdun, and were even expected to appear before Paris.

Was the Legislative Assembly still sitting?

No. It was succeeded, in September, 1792, by the National Convention. One of the first of their decrees was the total abolition of royalty, of all the ordinary titles of distinction; and France was declared a Republic.

What effect had this on the populace?

They became still more outrageous. Headed by the execrable triumvirate, Robespierre, Danton, and Marat, the Jacobins determined on the death of the King, and extermination not only of the nobles, but of all the respectable classes of the community. In order to diminish the number of those opposed to the new government, the prisons were forcibly entered, and the inmates, after having gone through the forms of a mock trial, were put to death. It is supposed that in the prisons alone five thousand persons were massacred. Amongst these victims was the amiable Princess de Lambelle, whose head was paraded in triumph in the very presence of the Queen, who was truly attached to her.

Relate the particulars of the King's death.

On the 2nd of December, 1792, the King was brought before the National Convention, where he was accused of crimes ~~subversive~~ of the well-being of the state. To all the accusations he replied with mildness and firmness. He was again sent back to prison: captivity rendered yet more bitter by his being deprived of the presence and consolations of his family. He was now doomed to solitary confinement.

Was no one found to plead his cause?

Yes. Louis was allowed to choose his counsel ; and with feelings of humanity, which were always predominant, he selected those men whom he thought would be least liable to danger by accepting the office, though many persons offered their services with sincerity and devotion.

Whom did he select ?

M. M. Tronchet, de Seze, and Malesherbes ; all men of talent, particularly the latter, who had twice been a member of the Council, when that office was an object of ambition. They made a most powerful defence ; but all in vain, Out of more than seven hundred votes, three hundred and sixty-six called for immediate death, amongst which number was Egalité. Not one member of the Convention dared to assert the innocence of his sovereign. On the 20th of January, 1793, sentence of death was passed on the King ; and on the following morning he was decapitated in the Place Louis Quinze.

Who attended him at the last ?

The pious Abbé Edgworth, the minister of his own choice : Cléry, too, his faithful valet, never forsook him. The King was allowed a parting interview with his family ; the most bitter trial of all he had undergone. On the scaffold, and indeed throughout the whole series of his cruel persecutions, he manifested a patience and resignation which nothing but the most perfect piety could have induced.

How long did the Queen survive ?

Only nine months. She was still more an object of aversion to the revolutionists than the unfortunate Louis had been ; and though, in many instances, she displayed magnanimity and greatness of mind, she

was certainly not free from great errors of conduct in the early part of her reign.

What were those errors ?

First. That she dispensed too much with the attendance of her suite, and by so doing, even though all her enjoyments might be perfectly innocent, she laid herself open to invidious reports, without the possibility of refuting them by the testimony of many witnesses. Secondly, Maria Antoinette interfered too much in political affairs, and, by manifesting her ascendancy over her husband, degraded him in the eyes of his people. She was also accused of favouring the interests of Germany, at the expense of France. She was beheaded on the 16th of October, 1793.

Who was the Princess Elizabeth ?

Sister of Louis. One of the most amiable and interesting characters of her time. Her only crime was her high descent, and the only accusation which even these monsters of the revolution brought forward against her was, that she had assisted in dressing the wounds of the soldiers who suffered in the massacre of the 10th of August. She was beheaded in May, 1794, and died as she had lived, resigned in all things to the will of Heaven.

What had become of the King's brothers ?

Monsieur, afterwards Louis XVIII., had left France with his consort, on the day of the flight to Varennes. He took refuge at the different courts of Austria, Sardinia, Russia, Prussia, and Sweden ; but was at last glad to accept the offer of a private life in England. The Count d'Artois, afterwards Charles X., joined his brother in England, after having been for some time resident in Germany.



Whom did Louis XVI. marry ?

Maria Antoinette, daughter of Maria Theresa, Empress of Austria.

Mention his children.

1. Louis Joseph, who died before his father, at the age of eight years.

2. Louis Charles, afterwards called Louis XVII. who died during the revolution, at ten years of age.

3. Maria Theresa, now Duchess d'Angoulême.

4. Sophie Helene, died an infant.

Did the Dauphin die a natural death ?

No. Death by the hand of the executioner would have been mercy to the fate decreed this unfortunate child. After the death of the Queen he was put under the care of an inhuman wretch, of the name of Simon, who by blows, starvation, cold, and ill usage of every description, brought him to the grave, in June, 1695.

What became of the Princess ?

After the death of her brother, her situation was rendered somewhat more endurable ; and in June, 1795, she was suffered to leave her prison, and to go over to Austria, where she was exchanged for four Commissioners of the Convention, who had been delivered up to the Austrians.

Where was Louis XVI. buried ?

The rites of sepulture were denied the mangled remains of Louis and his consort ; their bodies were destroyed with quick-lime, that every vestige of royalty might be swept from the face of the nation.

#### CHARACTER.

Louis possessed all those social virtues which could

endear him in private and domestic life. As a husband and a father his conduct is irreproachable. He was humane and pious, averse to oppression, and had he lived in the earlier ages of the monarchy, would have been considered a patriot King ; but his predecessors, like the Tudors of England, had ruled with despotism ; and the people, during their intercourse with America, had imbibed a spirit of independence which they now asserted. It required first-rate abilities to guide the helm, and these Louis possessed not. His understanding was weak, his judgment defective, and he fell a victim to his indecision of character.

## REMARKABLE EVENTS.

1777. Treaty between France and the British American Colonies. War with Great Britain.

1780. Death of the Empress Maria Theresa.

1782. The French fleet defeated in the West Indies, by the English, under Admiral Rodney.

1783. The treaty of Versailles : peace is signed between France and Great Britain.

1786. Death of Frederick the Great, of Prussia.

1789. Meeting of the States General at Versailles. Attack on the Bastille. Beginning of the revolution.

1790. The Jacobin Club established.

1791. The French emigrants form an army on the German frontier, under the Prince de Condé. 20th Sept. The Constitutional Assembly dissolved,—gives place to the Legislative.

1792. France declares war against Germany ; the Duke of Brunswick publishes his manifesto. 20th

September, dissolution of the Legislative Assembly, succeeded by the National Convention.

1793. Murder of Louis XVI.

CONTEMPORARY SOVEREIGNS.

*England*.—George III.

*Spain*.—Charles III. Charles IV.

*The Empire*.—Joseph II. Leopold II.

*The Papacy*.—Clement<sup>+</sup> IV. Pius VI.

## The Republic.

FROM THE YEAR 1792 TO 1799.

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IN what year was the ancient Monarchy of France declared a Republic?

On the meeting of the National Convention, in September, 1792. Shortly after, the Commune of Paris, headed by two of its profane members, Chanmette and Hebert, attempted to extirpate every vestige of religious worship. By bribes and threats they prevailed on a wretched man, whose name was Gobet, then Archbishop of Paris, to disown the existence of a Deity, and to denounce a religion which he had, for many years, endeavoured to support and to promulgate. His example was followed by many of the clergy as well as the people. The churches were closed, the bells made into cannon, and the ecclesiastical establishments destroyed. It was further made known, that for the future, adoration would only be paid to the goddess of reason.

Did not this disgraceful transaction occur before the death of Louis XVII?

Yes. But though the execution of the royal family took place after the abolition of the monarchy, in 1792, the events connected with the royal sufferers individually, are included under the reign of Louis XVI. for the sake of greater regularity and

clearness in the history. Thus, though the last chapter ended with the death of Louis XVII. and the liberation of the Duchess d'Angoulême, in 1795, we have now returned to trace the national occurrences, from the commencement of the Republic, in 1792.

In whose hands was the government lodged ?

The National Convention still continued to exert its authority. Danton, Robespierre, and Marat presided there, and this period has been justly styled "The reign of terror." This form of government prevailed till October, 1795, when it gave place to the Directory.

What became of the Triumvirs ?

Marat was stabbed by Charlotte Corday, who, either insane or enthusiastic, gloried to have delivered the world from a tyrant. Marat appears to have delighted in bloodshed, for the mere gratification of a ferocious nature. Yet lavish as he was of the lives of others, Marat was so great a coward, that he never attempted to defend his own life ; but lurked in concealment whenever it was menaced. He was the leader of a most violent jacobinical paper, which had great influence in effecting the various changes of the revolution.

What was the end of Danton ?

On the death of Marat he and Robespierre became rivals. Danton was the most talented man of the triumvirate ; but he never resisted any opportunity of plunder, or enjoyment of his booty. Though he had neither good principles, nor good feelings, yet he gave occasional proofs of generosity, and even of magnanimity. His early intercourse with the Orleans faction had rendered him the ruffian which he showed



himself in the greater part of the revolutionary troubles. He was guillotined through the machinations of Robespierre.

How long did Robespierre survive his colleague?

But a very short time. After a series of cruelties, too numerous to detail, Maximilian Robespierre became unpopular, was denounced by the Convention, and, at last, after having attempted suicide, perished by the guillotine in 1794. He has aptly been styled the Nero of France. His vanity and ambition were equally unbounded: envy, malice, revenge, and cunning, were the prompters of his innumerable and atrocious cruelties. He was charged with the intention of possessing himself of the government, and of seeking to restore the Bourbons; two accusations perfectly inconsistent with each other. With him ended the reign of terror.

How long did it continue?

Two years. During which time more than seventeen thousand persons are computed to have been put to death by the guillotine; five thousand committed suicide; three thousand died from terror; and twenty thousand perished from want and famine, in Paris alone.

What became of Egalité, Duke of Orleans?

He perished on the scaffold, amidst the execrations of the people, who upbraided him for his cruelties to their late sovereign.

What became of the allied army under the Duke of Brunswick?

The Duke, disappointed in the expectations he had formed, that the French royalists would flock to his standard, was compelled to retreat from the capital.

General Dumouriez opposed him with a numerous and well-disciplined army, and retook the towns of Longwy and Verdun. Almost all the Austrian Netherlands were also conquered.

At what period did the massacre in La Vendée take place?

Under the Republican government, in 1792. The Vendéans appear to have been a distinct race of people, distinguished for their simple and blameless habits of life, and their unswerving attachment and devotion to their hereditary sovereigns. It was, however, in the cause of religion that they first took arms in 1792.

In what did the great importance of the Vendéans, as a nation, consist?

In the uninterrupted harmony and friendship which subsisted between the different classes of society; more particularly between the proprietor and cultivator of the soil. In their religious duties this interesting people were unremittingly zealous; and the parish-priest was honoured and beloved by the community over which he presided. When they beheld the sacred altars of the Deity violated and profaned, the ministers of the Gospel driven from amongst them, with every species of persecution common to the revolution, it is not surprising that the inhabitants of La Vendée should consider resistance on their part an imperative duty.

What still further increased the discontents of this people?

The murder of the King and royal family, and the compulsory levies.

What success attended the Vendéans in their wars?

Nearly two hundred battles were fought in this devoted country, in most of which, for the first two years, the natives were victorious; but when the revolutionary fury was at its height, during the reign of terror, they were massacred without mercy; whole districts were depopulated, hundreds were burnt to death, and La Vendée presented only a wreck of desolation and plunder.

Did no power in Europe step forward to assert the cause of this oppressed people?

An armament was sent from Great Britain; but unfortunately, owing to disputes in the British cabinet, it did not arrive till the Republican forces, informed of its destination, were ready to oppose and prevent its landing.

Did not France declare war against several other powers of Europe?

Yes. Hostilities were commenced, in the name of the Republic, against England, Holland, Spain, and Sardinia.

Were not the forces of France victorious?

Yes. Success attended them on all sides, under the Republican form of government. The English were repulsed with great loss from the Continent, whither they had advanced. Spain was obliged to acknowledge the French Republic; Prussia submitted to a disgraceful peace; and the Stadtholder and his family were compelled to leave Holland, and seek refuge in England.

To what cause must we attribute the great change which had taken place in the military affairs of France within the last two or three years?

It may be attributable to several causes. The

Republic directed its whole attention to form a nation of soldiers; and every age and condition was made subservient to that end. Compulsory levies were resorted to; every man in France capable of bearing arms, was compelled to enlist in her service: the old men were employed in preparing arms, the women in making uniforms, and the children in scraping lint. All distinction of rank had been obliterated by the revolution: the army alone was an open field in which preferment was to be obtained henceforward; and the rulers of the Republic spared neither gold nor honours in rewarding military merit. Under the Republic arose those renowned warriors, Moreau, Pichegru, Murat, Ney, Joubert, Massena, Augebert, Berthier, and Buonaparte.

Describe the form of government under the Directory.

When the Convention began to lose ground in popular favour, France appears to have felt some regret for her ancient monarchy; though excesses had been carried too far to authorize a recall of the Bourbons. In the government which was about to be formed, the republics of antiquity, Greece and Rome, were the models proposed. Five persons, called Directors, were invested with executive power. The legislative authority was vested in two councils; one of elders, or of ancients, to which office no person was eligible till he had completed forty years, and was either married or a widower; the other, called the Council of Five Hundred, was attainable at the age of twenty-five, and both these powers were elective.

What were the exclusive rights of these three branches of the legislature?

The Directors were to make war or peace, and to enforce the execution of the laws. They had no share in the Legislative Assembly.

The Council of Five Hundred were to propose laws.

The Council of Ancients, to reject or adopt them.

How was this new government received by the people?

It was extremely unpopular, both in Paris and in the provinces; and for this reason, the electors were desired to choose two thirds of their representatives from the Convention, and in case they did not conform to this decree, the members of the Convention should themselves fill up the vacancies from their own body. France remembered that all the members who had sat in the National were, (notwithstanding their talents,) excluded from the Legislative Assembly, and they determined to resist the measure. Both parties took up arms.

How was this point decided?

Paris, dividing itself into sections, made General Danican Commander-in-Chief of their forces; whilst the Directory opposed to him General Barras, and under him Napoleon Buonaparte, and enforced the decree of the Convention.

How long did the Directory continue to preside?

Four years, from October, 1795, till November, 1799, when Buonaparte established the Consular Government. There were at first three Consuls, Buonaparte, Cambaceres, and Lebrun; though the first, in reality, reigned absolutely.



## NAPOLEON BUONAPARTE, EMPEROR.

IN what year was Napoleon made Emperor?

A. D. 1804, and dethroned 1815. He was born 1769; died 1821. He held the reins of government, as Emperor, eleven years.

Who was Napoleon?

He was the second son of Carlo Buonaparte, a student of the law at Pisa, whose family having been exiled from the Tuscan states, had settled in Corsica, where he married Lætitia Ramolini, a native Corsican, equally distinguished for her beauty and firmness of character.

How had Napoleon been educated?

His early years were passed in the simple manners of his native place. He was afterwards, through the interest of the Count Marbœuf, Governor of Corsica, sent to a military school at Brienne, in Champagne. Here he showed great talent for mathematics, but little for classical learning. Having been removed to a central school at Paris, he there completed his education. He entered on his military career at the age of seventeen, when he was made lieutenant of artillery.

Did he, in his youth, give any proofs of that daring spirit and love of dominion which afterwards distinguished him?

At school he appears to have been of a studious and reserved habit ; though, when he chose to exert himself, he could always obtain the ascendancy over his companions. He had no taste for languages, and was never able to spell or write French with correctness ; neither was he an admirer of the fine arts, but in mathematics and fortification he surpassed all his contemporaries even at school ; and it was owing to this proficiency that he was promoted to the central establishment at Paris.

How early did his political sentiments appear ?

Pichegru, who was with him at Brienne, asserts, that even there Napoleon leaned to the popular party. Be this as it may, it is certain, that on his succeeding by seniority to a captaincy of artillery, his first military exploit was in a civil war in his native island ; where, on the part of the Convention, he opposed the celebrated General Paoli, the friend of his father, and with whom he was connected. Paoli's party gaining ground, Napoleon, with all his family were exiled, and settled at Marseilles, where they suffered many privations, till Napoleon's growing power enabled him to assist them.

Where did Napoleon first excite the attention of the French government ?

At the siege of Toulon, 1793, where he was employed by Barras in directing the artillery. England, Naples, and Spain joined the royalists, but were obliged to evacuate the place. The military conduct and courage of Napoleon, at Toulon, were honourable to his talents ; but he disgraced himself by permitting an inhuman and extensive massacre after the capture.

What British officers were employed at Toulon?  
Lord Hood and Sir Sydney Smith.

Where was Napoleon next employed?

He was appointed to a battalion in Italy, and joined the army at Nice; but as there was but little active service going on at this period, Buonaparte employed himself in gaining a complete knowledge of the Alpine country, where he was so soon to distinguish himself. On the death of Robespierre Napoleon was recalled, and returned to Paris to seek for further employment.

Was he not employed there in a civil contest?

Yes. As has been before noticed, on the day of the Sections the people resisted the oppressive measures of the Convention, when the Directory was about to be established. Napoleon was employed by the government, and defeated the forces of the Section with great slaughter. He was, on this occasion, made second in command of the troops of the interior, then General, and immediately joined the great army in Italy.

With what powers had Buonaparte to contend in Italy?

With Sardinia, and her yet more powerful ally, Austria: Naples also, was in alliance with these powers. France had at this time two other powerful armies in the field; that of the Rhine and the Moselle, under Moreau; that of the Sambre and Meuse, under General Jourdan.

What were the achievements of Napoleon in Italy?

Here it was that this extraordinary man, first beginning to act for himself, introduced a new dis-

cipline into the French service. He aimed at nothing but conquest ; was prodigal of the lives, and careless of either the health or comfort of his soldiers. The French are supposed to have been the only people who could have been trained in this desperate manner. Under Napoleon the Imperialists were defeated, the Piedmontese separated from their allies, Savoy was annexed to France, and by the passage of the bridge of Lodi, the capture of Milan, Pavia, and Cremona, the French ascendancy in Italy was established. All this was effected in the campaign of 1796.

Did not the different states sue for peace ?

Yes ; all but the Emperor and England. Many of the Italian cities purchased a truce, by giving up their most valuable paintings and statues, which were sent in triumph to Paris, and for many years were the great ornament and attraction of the capital.

What success attended the armies under Moreau and Jourdan ?

At first they were victorious over the Archduke Charles, the Austrian General ; but Jourdan was compelled at last to make a hasty retreat, and Moreau was repulsed. Moreau's retreat through the Black Forest is considered a *chef-d'œuvre* of military skill. After having taken Mantua, and Italy being generally subdued, Napoleon advanced by way of Trieste into Germany, and made the Austrians fear even for the safety of Vienna.

What effect did this movement produce ?

The Emperor was glad to enter into a treaty with France, which was signed at Campo Formio. By this treaty the Austrian Netherlands were ceded to France ; the Cisalpine Republic, a dependency on

the same power, was formed ; Genoa was made a republic, and the Ionian Isles also surrendered to France.

What do you mean by the Cisalpine Republic ?

The union of the cities of Milan, Mantua, Modena, and Bologna were so styled by Napoleon when he made them dependencies of France.

How came France to be at war with the Papal see ?

The general disaffection of the Catholics in the south of France to the reigning powers, was attributed to the influence of the Pope ; and added to this, the nation had received an actual injury from the see of Rome, in the person of her envoy.

Relate the particulars of this injury.

The French artists resident in Rome had displayed the tri-coloured cockade of the revolution, contrary to the decree of the Pope, who had refused to acknowledge the Republic of France. In consequence of this, the French minister, named Basseville, was attacked in his own house, and unarmed and defenceless, was assassinated with great cruelty. Upon Buonaparte it fell to avenge this act. He marched to Loretto, which he stripped of its treasures, and entering Rome, compelled the Pope (Pius VI.) to accept the terms which he thought fit to impose.

What act of generosity is recorded of Napoleon during his Italian campaign ?

The honourable terms which he proposed to Wurmser, the General who had so bravely and ably defended Mantua. He permitted him and his suite to depart, with two hundred soldiers, and a part of their artillery ; and refused to be present when this



great man had the mortification to surrender his sword, as a token of defeat, to the French officers.

Did not Napoleon depose the Pope, and send him prisoner to Sienna ?

Yes. Joseph Buonaparte, having been made Ambassador at Rome, encouraged the republican spirit of the resident French, who, in a contest with the Papal troops, lost one of their General officers, named Duphot. The Pope, dreading the avenging arm of Napoleon, offered any compensation in his power ; but in vain. Rome was pillaged, the Vatican stripped of its treasures, and Pius VI. was sent first to Sienna, and afterwards to Florence.

Did not France make an attempt to invade Britain about this time ?

Yes. England being now the only unsubdued enemy of the Republic, an expedition was planned, consisting of 25,000 men, who were to make a descent on the south of Ireland ; but on the failure of this attempt, they effected a landing in Wales, where the whole force was taken prisoners, the very evening of their disembarkation.

What other attempt did the Directory make against the British possessions ?

On the return of Napoleon from the campaign in Italy, after the failure of the two attempts just cited, he advised that the measure should be given up, at least for a time ; and instead of being made General of an army to invade England, as the Directory proposed, he caused himself to be sent on an expedition into Egypt, hoping by this means eventually to effect the conquest of the British possessions in India. At this time Napoleon planned the usurpa-

tion of absolute power; but finding the crisis not yet arrived, in which he could dissolve the Directory, he left Paris without disclosing these latent intentions.

What was the state of popular feeling in Paris, at the time of Napoleon's return from Italy?

The Directory was not only unpopular, but was divided amongst itself. The country was generally favourable to the Bourbons. Several leading military men, amongst which number was the celebrated Pichegru, were discovered in a conspiracy to restore them. By order of the Directory, they were banished to the scorching deserts of Guiana. In the mean time public honours were decreed Napoleon, whilst he, with political dissimulation, studied to repel, rather than to invite popular notice.

In what year, and at what place, did Napoleon embark for Egypt?

In May, 1798, he set sail from Toulon, and on his way to Egypt, he gained possession of Malta by stratagem, and the treachery of the inhabitants. After taking Alexandria, Cairo, and defeating the Mamelukes, he caused his squadron, under Admiral Bruyères, to anchor in Aboukir Bay; and there the English fleet, under the celebrated Admiral Nelson, first came in sight of them.

What were the particulars of this action?

In point of numbers, the two powers were nearly equal, though the French had several ships of eighty-four guns, and one of one hundred and twenty-four, whilst the British were all seventy-four-gun vessels. In this great action, the whole French fleet was destroyed; the Admiral's ship, *L'Orient*, blew up with

a tremendous explosion ; and whilst Britain's ascendancy on the ocean was confirmed, Napoleon and his army were cut off from all communication with the mother-country, and compelled to become inhabitants of an unknown region.

What did Napoleon whilst thus shut up in Egypt?

After having made himself master of nearly the whole country, he marched into Palestine, besieged Acre unsuccessfully, but at last destroyed an immense army of the Turks at Aboukir.

What celebrated generals were enlisted under Napoleon's banners in Italy and Egypt?

Berthier, Dessaix, Murat, Andréossi, Lannes, Marmont, and Bessières ; these he took with him on a pretended expedition to the Delta, but in reality, their destination was France, whither he was about to return. Generals Kleber and Ménou were left in command of the army in Egypt.

What act of inhumanity is recorded of Buonaparte at Jaffa ?

The barbarous massacre of twelve thousand Turks, who held out after the storming of Jaffa, and at last surrendered themselves prisoners, and were admitted to quarter. Three days after they had so done, Napoleon had them all drawn up in a large plain without the city, and there shot by his soldiers. At this time the plague broke out with dreadful havoc in the French army.

What vindication has Napoleon urged for this inhuman deed ?

First, that his messenger, sent to treat with the Turks, had been decapitated ; and secondly, that the Turks were under a solemn promise, not to serve

against the French, and that they had violated this contract.

Is not Buonaparte accused of having poisoned his own soldiers, who were suffering under the plague at Jaffa?

Yes, but without authentic evidence. On his retreat from that place, which was effected with all possible secrecy, he is said to have destroyed the sick in the hospitals with opium, rather than leave them to the cruelty of the Turks. To take them on, even allowing such a measure practicable, was disseminating infection in the army. It is probable that an idea of their destruction once crossed the mind of Napoleon, but was immediately discountenanced by the medical attendant, Desgenettes. Sir Sydney Smith, who was the personal enemy of Napoleon, and who followed him to Jaffa, denies the circumstance, and states that he found seven men alive in the hospital, which is the number Buonaparte admits he was compelled to leave behind.

What length of time had Napoleon been absent in Egypt?

About seventeen months; though he had in that time done much, it was unequal to the hopes he had formed. His fleet was destroyed, his army blockaded, and his return was clandestine; in the mean time all was progressively co-operating at home, towards the furtherance of his ambitious views. The Directory had disgraced themselves in popular favour, by their mercenary and avaricious conduct, more particularly manifested in their treaty with the United States of America; the neutral states of Switzerland had been attacked, Naples had surrendered

to the Republic, and her royal family had emigrated to Sicily ; the Pope was still degraded, and a captive, and France was an object of general dread and hatred to all the powers of Europe.

What other events had transpired during Napoleon's absence ?

Russia, uniting with Austria, under the command of the celebrated Suwarrow, had retaken most of the Italian provinces which Buonaparte had conquered ; General Jourdan had been repulsed on the Rhine by the Arch-duke Charles ; the French interest in the Netherlands was nearly annihilated ; and for these failures, the Directory, under whose auspices the most renowned generals of France had been sent into Egypt, were loaded with abuse and execrations.

How was Buonaparte received in Paris ?

With every demonstration of joy. His family had omitted no opportunity of keeping his merits alive in the mind of the people. Lucien Buonaparte had distinguished himself as an orator in the Council of Five Hundred ; and Joseph Buonaparte was looked upon as a man of talent and integrity.

To whom was Napoleon married ?

To Marie Josephine Beauharnois ; and through her interest it was that General Barras first assisted him in promotion. This marriage took place before Napoleon first joined the army in Italy. Josephine long preserved a powerful ascendancy over the mind of Napoleon. She appears to have been of an amiable disposition, willing at all times to advocate the cause of merit and distress. She was justly popular in France.



How was the Directory dissolved ?

Napoleon, aided by the Directors, Sieyes and Ducos, having caused the two legislative powers to assemble at St. Cloud, instead of at Paris, dispersed the Council of Five Hundred with military force, and a provisional government was at last established, at the head of which was placed three Consuls, Napoleon, Cambacères, and Le Brun ; the two former were to continue in office ten, the latter five years.

What was the conduct of Napoleon on being made First Consul ?

He acted with so much moderation, offering immunity for the past, and hope for the future, that all parties seemed to favour the new order of things. The national religion was restored ; monarchial forms again appeared, and persons of talent, whatsoever might have been their former conduct or profession, were employed, provided they would now become faithful to the reigning power. It was at this time that Napoleon took up his residence at the royal palace of the Thuilleries ; the Directory had resided in the Luxembourg.

Who were Napoleon's chief ministers ?

Talleyrand, Bishop of Autun, who had been deeply concerned in the revolution, was his minister for foreign affairs ; and Fouchet, whose name was stigmatized by his conduct during the reign of terror, was his minister of police ; both men of eminent talent and experience. But Talleyrand had neither principle nor morality ; and Fouchet was a monster, who had no vestige of humanity, and had grown rich by the arts of peculation, during the revolutionary troubles.

Did not Napoleon offer terms of peace to Great Britain?

Yes. He had been made Consul at the close of the year 1799, and at the commencement of the succeeding, contrary to the etiquette of diplomatic usage, Napoleon himself addressed a letter to the British sovereign, George III., insisting on the important advantages of peace to each country: but his offers of conciliation were then rejected, and it was not till the conclusion of the war in Egypt, that a treaty of peace was signed at Amiens, between France and England, March, 1802.

What had become of Buonaparte's army, which had been left in Egypt under Kleber and Ménou?

General Kleber was assassinated. General Ménou, after having been twice beaten by Sir Ralph Abercrombie, the English commander, accepted terms of accommodation offered by Great Britain, and was conveyed to France with his army.

Did the Russians continue to act as allies of Austria?

No. After nearly all Italy had been taken by the Austrians, aided by Suwarrow, (to whom the French opposed General Massena,) a misunderstanding arose between the Russian and Austrian Emperors, and Russia withdrew from the contest. In the summer of 1800, General Moreau was in command of the army on the Rhine, whilst Napoleon himself once more headed his troops in Italy.

What did Napoleon effect at this time?

After having passed Mont St. Bernard, and entered Milan, he gained the celebrated battle of Marengo. Here, for a long time, victory appeared to decide in favour of the Austrians; but the arrival of

the gallant General Dessaix turned the tide ; the Austrians were routed, and solicited an armistice, after they had been again beaten by Moreau, at Hoenlenden. Napoleon, after the Austrian affairs became desperate, agreed to a peace, on terms very advantageous to France.

On what terms was peace concluded between Great Britain and France in 1802 ?

By a treaty, or rather truce, signed at Amiens, Malta was declared a free port, equally independent of either nation. England surrendered all her conquests during the war, except Trinidad and Ceylon ; whilst France guaranteed the independence of the Ionian Isles, and restored all she had taken from Portugal. Soon after the peace of Amiens, the celebrated concordat was signed between Napoleon and Pope Pius VII.

When, and on what account did Buonaparte institute the “ Legion of Honour ? ”

On the 15th of May, 1802. This order was created professedly to distinguish all who deserved well of their country, either in a military, or civil capacity. It consisted simply of a cross and ribbon, which entitled the bearer to a precedence and pension : the decoration was the same for officer, private, and citizen. It was largely distributed amongst those brave men who had shared in the campaigns of Italy. On the same day Napoleon caused himself to be declared Consul for life ; and shortly after, the privilege of nominating a successor was also conceded to him.

Why was the peace of Amiens of so short duration ?

It does not appear that either nation had ful-

filled the stipulations it enjoined ; and the national dissatisfaction was displayed with unmeasured severity in the journals of the day. Several treaties which the Chief Consul had concluded with Turkey, Spain, and Portugal, before the peace of Amiens, now first became publicly known ; and his grasping ambition, in all parts of Europe, together with the atrocious cruelties exercised in the subjugation of St. Domingo, with the mysterious death of Toussaint, its defender, excited universal horror and disgust. In May, 1803, Great Britain again declared war on France.

What became of the English, who during the short interval of peace had visited France ?

The very night on which declaration of war reached Paris, orders were issued for arresting all English subjects to be found within the dominions of France. Many thousand persons were thus made prisoners of war : they were sent to Verdun. Very many of them were detained thirteen years in captivity.

What action of Napoleon, about this time, has cast an indelible stain on his memory ?

The murder of the Duke d'Enghien, heir of Condé, a Prince as much beloved for his private virtues as he was admired for his military talents.

Upon what pretext was this deed committed ?

A report was in circulation, that England and the exiled Bourbons had formed a plot on the life of the First Consul. The Duke de Berri, Pichegru, (who had a short time since returned from exile,) and Moreau, were supposed to have entered into the conspiracy, and the unfortunate Duke d'Enghien was said to have been in readiness to profit by the result of the

event : of this, however, no proof was adduced. The Duke, who resided at the castle of Ettenheim, on his estate at Baden, was forcibly arrested, and conveyed to Strasburg. After three days he was conducted to the Temple in Paris, and within the course of a few hours, he was again removed to the Chateau de Vincennes ; and after the mockery of a trial, in which his defence was rejected, he was, before morning, shot by a body of gens d'armes, commanded by General Savary, who acted under the command of Napoleon.

What other atrocities are imputed to Buonaparte, about the same time ?

The deaths of Pichegru and of Captain Wright, both of whom were found dead in their prisons, and their deaths have ever remained a mystery. Moreau was exiled to Cayenne.

What event marked the year 1804 ?

On the 28th of May, Napoleon was, by the tribune of Paris, declared Emperor of the French, Carnot alone dissenting from the measure ; and except Russia, Sweden, and England, every crown in Europe acknowledged his title. Some of the German Princes went in person to attend his coronation at Paris. The very men who had most vehemently opposed the regal power of the Bourbons, now appeared the most eager in voting the imperial dignity to Napoleon.

Where did the coronation take place ?

In the cathedral of Notre Dame, at Paris. Here Napoleon and the Empress Josephine were solemnly crowned by Pope Pius VII. Buonaparte soon after repaired to Milan, where he was crowned King of Italy with the iron crown of Lombardy. On his return to the French capital, he left Eugene Beau-



harnois, son of Josephine, viceroy at Milan, declaring that on his own death, the two crowns should not again be united in one person.

Did the Emperor then remain in peaceful possession of his territory?

No. The English monarch, George III., refused to acknowledge the title of Napoleon, and with the Northern powers, Russia and Sweden, entered into a defensive league, in which Austria shortly after joined. The murder of the Duke d'Enghien had excited universal horror and detestation. The Emperor of Germany made war on the Elector of Bavaria, who was the ally of France; on which Napoleon immediately marched to his relief, and after having beaten the Austrians at Wertingen, Guntzbourg, and Munich, having compelled General Mack to surrender Ulm and Memmingen, Prince Murat, brother-in-law of Buonaparte, marched to Vienna, and entered it in triumph.

What other generals assisted Napoleon in his conquests in Germany?

Ney and Massena. The Emperor Francis was driven from his capital, and Buonaparte took up his residence at the palace of Schönbrun, November, 1805.

Had not Napoleon again revived his favourite project of invading England?

Yes: and the combined forces of France and Spain, after having for some months been chased by the renowned English Admiral, Nelson, sustained a total annihilation off Cape Trafalgar. The victory, though glorious to Great Britain, was dearly pur-

purchased, by the death of Nelson, who expired in the moment of triumph.

What sovereign titles were dispensed by Napoleon, in the year 1806 ?

His brother Louis was made King of Holland ; Joseph, King of Naples ; and Jerome, King of Westphalia ; whilst the electorates of Bavaria, Saxony, and Wurtemberg, were formed into kingdoms, and with other sovereigns in the west of Germany, were united in an alliance, called “ The Confederation of the Rhine.”

Where did Napoleon give battle to the combined forces of Austria and Russia ?

At Austerlitz, in Moravia, where he gained a most signal victory. All resistance being hopeless, on the part of the allies, the Emperor Francis entered into a treaty of peace, which was signed at Presburg ; and the Czar was allowed a free passage into his own dominions. The engagement at Austerlitz has been styled the battle of the Emperors.

What was the conduct of Napoleon towards Prussia ?

The most treacherous. Hanover had been ceded to Prussia, in exchange for Anspach, Barenth, and Neufchatel ; and a few weeks after this arrangement the French monarch offered Hanover to its lawful sovereign, the King of Great Britain, in exchange for the island of Sicily. On this account Prussia declared war on France.

What Generals were employed against Prussia ?

Soult and Ney, Murat, Bernadotte, and Davoust, Lennes, and Augereau. The King of Prussia, Frede-

rick William, and his Generalissimo, the Duke of Brunswick, with Blucher, were opposed to them. The Prussians were defeated with great slaughter at Saalfeld, where Prince Louis of Prussia fell. Three days after, the French gained the celebrated battle of Jena. The tyrannical and cruel conduct of Napoleon to the Duke of Brunswick and the Prussians, was justly regarded with detestation by all the powers of Europe. The King of Prussia demanded an armistice of six weeks; but even this Napoleon refused; and he successively took the cities of Erfurth, Leipsick, Wurtemberg, Potsdam, and Berlin. Into this latter place the French made a triumphal entry, October, 1806. In one week's campaign Napoleon effected the total humiliation of the Prussian monarchy.

What was the state of affairs in the Peninsula?

The King of Portugal incurred the displeasure of Napoleon, by receiving the prohibited manufactures and colonial produce of Great Britain. Before the close of the year 1807 the royal family emigrated to the Brazils; the French troops entered Lisbon, and the whole country submitted to the conqueror.

What was the state of Spain?

The royal family were divided by intrigues and dissensions. Charles IV. and his Queen abdicated, and the Prince of Asturias, afterwards Ferdinand VII., was released from prison, to be placed on the throne. Murat, who then commanded the French troops in Spain, marched to Madrid, and took possession of it in person. After various artifices Charles and Ferdinand resigned their kingdom in favour of Napoleon; and in 1808, Joseph Buonaparte was called

from the throne of Naples, to take possession of that of Spain; and Murat, Grand Duke of Berg, was made King of Naples in his stead.

Did the Spanish nation quietly submit to the French yoke?

No. Insurrections and assassinations broke out in almost every town in Spain. At Madrid a dreadful massacre of the French soldiery took place. The Spaniards applied to England for assistance, and every encouragement was given them, to proceed in resisting the power of France. It was in defence of the oppressed Spaniards, that the English engaged in the Peninsular war, in which Sir Arthur Wellesley (now Duke of Wellington) and Sir John Moore gained immortal glory.

How was the peace with Austria finally cemented, shortly after the battle of Wagram?

By the marriage of Napoleon with the Arch-duchess Maria Louisa. In December, 1809, he had, from motives of policy, divorced his first consort, Josephine, and in the following March his affianced bride entered France. The marriage took place on the 2nd of April, at Paris, with every mark of imperial pomp and magnificence that the French genius could invent. By this union Buonaparte became son of the Emperor, Francis II., whom he had so repeatedly injured, nephew to the Arch-duke Charles, first-cousin to Ferdinand VII., and cousin to the Duchess d'Angoulême.

What event took place in Holland at this time?

Louis Buonaparte, who had reluctantly accepted the crown of that kingdom, seeing that the interests and welfare of his new subjects was to be sacrificed to his brother's ambition, abdicated, and retired to

a private life at Gratz, in Styria; and shortly after Holland was annexed to the French empire.

What was the most remarkable event of the year 1811?

The Empress Maria Louisa gave birth to a son, whom Napoleon immediately declared King of Rome; and Charles XIII. of Sweden, who had succeeded to the throne on the abdication of his uncle Gustavus, acknowledged Marshal Bernadotte, one of Napoleon's Generals, as his successor.

How was the birth of the King of Rome received in Paris?

Publicly, with the same demonstrations of joy as attended the birth of a Dauphin, but in reality the satisfaction was far from being universal. The royalists saw in this event the destruction of their hopes for the return of the Bourbons; the republicans looked forward with dread to the continuation of Buonaparte's despotic sway; and the old generals of the empire, who had sometimes been led to expect that their master, like a second Alexander, might divide his dominions amongst them, saw in the birth of this Prince the termination of their illusive hopes.

Was not Napoleon very anxious to enter on an amicable treaty with England?

Yes. He felt that all his conquests were insecure, so long as Great Britain was opposed to him. The late campaigns in Austria and Prussia, together with the Peninsular war, which still continued, had heavily taxed the lives and properties of the nation, and political murmurs and discontents spread widely through all ranks. About this time, the minister



Fouché was disgraced, for having entered into a private negotiation with England.

Did not fresh hostilities break out with Russia ?

Yes. Disgusted with Napoleon's encroachments, the Emperor Alexander, contrary to the treaty of Tilsit, 1807, permitted the admission of English goods into his dominions : and though, from political motives, Napoleon was at this time averse to a war with Russia, yet, finding it inevitable, he prepared to enter that country with such an army as Europe had never before beheld.

What was the issue of the Russian campaign ?

The most fatal to France. The Czar of Russia joined in strict alliance by England, Sweden, the Spanish Cortes, and the Ottoman Porte, received the most unlimited supplies of men and money. As Napoleon advanced into Russia, the inhabitants retreated before him, destroying every village and town through which they passed ; so that the very necessaries of life were cut off from the French army.

Did no decided battles ensue ?

Yes, several. In September, 1812, Prince Kutuzoff, the Russian Commander-in-chief, at the earnest entreaty of his troops, awaited the arrival of Buonaparte on the banks of the Borodino, on the high road to Moscow. Here a most dreadful slaughter ensued on each side : but still Napoleon advanced, and at length reached Moscow. His surprise was great on finding the whole city deserted, and no resistance opposed to his entry. His soldiers pillaged palaces, bazaars, and convents ; but at night the city was blown up by the Russians, who, before the evacuation of it, had laid

trains of combustibles in every part. The conflagration lasted four days, at the end of which time nothing but straggling ruins remained of this ancient capital. Napoleon now dictated terms of peace to the Czar, which were disregarded.

What ensued ?

Napoleon was at length obliged to retreat. In the early part of November, the Russian winter set in : the horses, ill fed, died by thousands ; the starving soldiers, benumbed with the severity of the climate, endured sufferings beyond all parallel : fifteen thousand men laid down their arms. After having the rear-guard of his army cut off in his retreat, having been again beaten at Krasnoi, and having held a council of war at Wilna, Napoleon, accompanied by Caulincourt, and two other officers of rank, Rustan, his favourite Mamaluke, and one domestic, set off for Paris. They passed through Warsaw and Dresden ; the Emperor maintaining that he had beaten the Russians in every engagement. It is computed, that one hundred and twenty-five thousand French were slain in this campaign ; one hundred and thirty-two thousand perished from cold, hunger, and fatigue ; one hundred and ninety-three thousand were made prisoners by the Russians.

How was Napoleon received in Paris ?

With congratulations and confidence ; and though almost every family had to bewail the loss of some relative in this disastrous enterprize, such was the enthusiasm that still clung to the name of Napoleon, that when the whole truth became public, his reverses were attributed to the severity of the climate alone ; and in the early part of the next year, 1813,

a new levy of three hundred and fifty thousand troops was again ready to take the field. During the Russian campaign, the French troops in Spain had experienced signal defeat.

Against what power was this new army to be directed ?

Against the Prussians, who had now recovered that energy which had been so fatally depressed, six years before, at the battle of Jena, and who were determined to make an effort for their own emancipation. Frederick William, King of Prussia, and Alexander, Emperor of Russia, met at Breslau, in Silesia, renewed their ancient friendship, and solemnly vowed never to sheathe the sword, till the revenge of Prussia was complete. The command of the Prussian troops was given to Blucher ; that of the Russians to General Witgenstein. The Crown Prince of Sweden was advancing against Napoleon into Saxony ; and Lord Wellington was also on his march into Spain.

Who did Napoleon make Regent before he again left France ?

The Empress Maria Louisa, which was confirmed by letters patent, May, 1813, when Napoleon set out to open the campaign of Saxony. After two engagements, in which though many lives were lost, little was effected on either side, a short truce was signed at Prague, in the month of June.

What part had Austria taken in this new warfare ?

Austria had offered to become the mediator of a general peace, provided Napoleon would break up the Rhenish confederacy, and acknowledge the Rhine for the eastern boundary of France ; but this negocia-

tion was repeatedly rejected. Not all the arguments of Talleyrand could make Napoleon admit the necessity of the measure ; and it was not till the day after the armistice expired, that Napoleon appeared willing to accede to the Austrian stipulations.

Was peace effected ?

No. Austria now prepared for war, and joined the allies. The Austrians were commanded by Prince Schwartzemberg : the whole plan of movements for the allied army is said to have been drawn up by Bernadotte, Prince of Sweden, and General Moreau, who had returned from exile in America, and had entered into the service of the Emperor Alexander.

Was the opening of the campaign favourable to Napoleon ?

Yes. Victory once more shone on him at Dresden ; but from that moment he experienced only accumulated reverses. A long, and almost daily succession of defeats, followed the battle of Leipsic, and the French people became weary of war and of Napoleon.

What great events mark the opening of the year 1814 ?

The confederation of the Rhine was broken up for ever. Hanover, Brunswick, and Hesse, returned to their rightful sovereigns ; the Prince of Orange now took possession of Holland ; all Italy was in a state of revolt from the power of France ; and Lord Wellington had delivered the Peninsula from the tyrannic sway of Napoleon.

What was the intestine state of France ?

The royalists, who thirteen years before had distinguished themselves in the revolution, now began

to demand the recal of the exiled Bourbons ; and the republicans, weary of the despotism of Napoleon's government, desired a new order of things. The Emperor, in the mean time, was obliged to acknowledge Ferdinand VII. King of Spain, and to liberate Pope Pius VII. from his imprisonment at Fontainebleau.

Was not a manifesto published by the allies at Frankfurt ?

Yes. In January, 1814, the sovereigns, before they passed the frontiers of France, declared that the whole aim of the war was to restore general peace to Europe ; that they were enemies, not to the person, but to the measures of Napoleon ; and for some time they refused to take any part in deciding on the future sovereign of France.

Did not Napoleon then sue for peace ?

Yes. He authorised Caulincourt to enter on a negociation, but the immense preparations which he made at the very same time for a renewal of hostilities, plainly proved that his only aim was to gain time. He soon after dissolved the Legislative Assembly, who no longer tacitly yielded acquiescence to his measures.

When did the allies enter France ?

Early in the month of January, 1814, the Russians, Prussians, and English, effected an entrance in different directions ; and Buonaparte once more left his capital, and advanced to Brienne, where Blucher was posted. Having gained some victories successively at this town, La Rothiere, Montereau, and Nangis, he again refused to treat with the allied powers, and on the 27th of March they entered



Paris, immediately after the egress of the Empress Maria Louisa, who with her son, retired to Blois.

Did not an engagement take place in the capital ?

Yes. On the following morning, March 30, 1814, the allies fought and won the final battle of Montmatre ; the French were commanded by generals Marmont and Mortier. Napoleon did not arrive till after the action : and when it appeared that all was over, he was with great difficulty persuaded to remain at Fontainebleau, where he dispatched Caulincourt to Paris, to make the best treaty he could with the allies.

What terms were offered to Napoleon ?

The Emperor Alexander, on the part of the allies, refused to treat with Napoleon or any of his family ; and to make this manifesto more emphatic, it was published by " Michaud, printer to the King." After a long debate, Buonaparte at length resigned the crown in favour of his son. He signed his abdication at the palace of Fontainebleau, April 4, 1814.

Was this conditional resignation accepted ?

No. The allies would hear of nothing less than an entire renunciation of sovereign power. The imperial title was still to be given to Napoleon, with the entire sovereignty of the island of Elba ; the duchies of Parma, Piacenza, and Guastella, were granted to Maria Louisa, and her heirs ; and an annual pension was assigned to the ex-empress Josephine, and other members of the Buonaparte family. To these arrangements Napoleon subscribed on the 11th instant, renouncing for himself and heirs, all further claims on the thrones of France and Italy.

When did Napoleon leave France ?

On the 20th of April, 1814, he bade farewell to those brave soldiers who had formed the imperial guard : he then departed from Fontainebleau ; the Empress Maria Louisa and her son, were on the road to Vienna. Josephine died before the allies left France. On the 4th of May, Napoleon landed at Elba, attended by his immediate suite ; together with cavalry and infantry, and a commissioner from each of the allied powers. The Bourbons had entered Paris before Napoleon left Fontainebleau.

How long did he remain at Elba ?

Ten months. The title of Emperor had not been acknowledged by Great Britain ; the sum allotted had not been remitted by France ; and his consort and son had been detained on the part of Austria : these were the pleas which Napoleon urged for again appearing in arms. Louis XVIII. was driven from his capital and the allies once more united their forces.

What engagement finally settled the fate of Buonaparte and of France ?

The Battle of Waterloo, June 18, 1815. By the army alone Napoleon was still beloved : they fought with their wonted bravery, but nothing could resist the military skill of Wellington, Blucher, and other leaders of the allies. After the conquest at Waterloo, they again assembled under the walls of Paris. Napoleon was declared an outlaw, in consequence of his having broken the treaty at Elba. A second time he renounced all claims on the throne of France, and Louis XVIII. was again placed on the throne of his ancestors.

What is meant by "the hundred days?"

The time in which Napoleon again governed

France, from his return from Elba, to his second abdication.

What was the last act of Napoleon in France ?

After having signed his abdication a second time, at Paris, he determined to embark for America ; but the allies refusing to guarantee him a safe voyage across the Atlantic, he, as a last resource, surrendered to the English. Captain Maitland received him on board H. M. S. the *Bellerophon* ; and on the 24th of July they entered Torbay. Napoleon was not permitted to land in England, nor was the *Bellerophon* allowed to hold intercourse with any other vessel.

What was the final decree of the allies ?

On the 31st of July it was made known to General Buonaparte, that St. Helena was to be his destination. Against this decree he vehemently remonstrated, but resistance was vain. On the 8th of August, 1815, he sailed in the *Northumberland*, under Admiral Sir George Cockburn, with a small suite, not exceeding in all twenty persons. On the 15th of October he landed on the island, and as soon as the necessary preparations could be made, took up his residence at Longwood.

How long did he survive his last exile ?

Nearly six years. He died of an hereditary complaint in the stomach, which had been the death of his father, and has since proved fatal to his son : he expired at Longwood the 5th of May, 1821, aged fifty-two. He was buried under the shade of some willows, which had been his favourite retreat.

## CHARACTER.

The ruling passion of Napoleon's life was ambition; an ambition so vast and boundless, that to it he sacrificed every sentiment of public honour, and private feeling; the lives of millions, and the very existence of states and kingdoms. His talents and genius in war were unrivalled; but the tyrant was so blended with the hero, that he was the scourge, no less than the wonder of the world.

The enthusiasm which his military career called forth, attached his generals and soldiers in an eminent degree. Individually, Napoleon was of too selfish and calculating a nature, to be worthy a sincere and ardent affection; of which he gave a striking proof in sacrificing the amiable Josephine to his political views. He is thought more nearly to have resembled Frederick the Great of Prussia, than any other warrior: like him too, Napoleon was temperate, naturally simple in his habits, and fearless of encountering the hardships, danger, and fatigues of a military life, in common with the private soldier.

THE END.







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